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HUNTING IN MINNESOTA IN THE SEVENTIES*

Under the heading "Observe Game Laws," a recent publication of the Ten Thousand Lakes Association contains the following:

Minnesota is particularly fortunate in its wild life resources, birds, animals and fishes, and with your cooperation we hope to maintain these attractions for posterity. . . . Our state and its wild life furnish many an interesting subject for the camera enthusiast, in stills and motion pictures and there is no closed season for the camera hunter.

It is interesting to note the difference in emphasis between this and the following paragraph from a pamphlet published by the state in 1869, written to attract tourists and prospective settlers to Minnesota:

In the spring and fall these lakes are all covered with ducks and other water fowl, affording rare amusement for the sportsman. . . . Sometimes wild pigeons, which often breed in our woods, may be shot in great numbers in June. . . . The first of August in Minnesota is what the first of September is in England, when the game law permits the shooting of prairie chickens, pheasants, grouse, &c., which abound everywhere.¹

In the recent publication the idea of conservation is uppermost. The tourist is invited to enjoy the wild life of Minnesota with a camera instead of a gun. The earlier

* A paper read on June 15, 1935, at the Willmar session of the thirteenth state historical convention held under the auspices of the Minnesota Historical Society. *Ed.*

¹ Ten Thousand Lakes Greater Minnesota Association, *The Minnesota Book*, 9 (St. Paul, 1931); Girart Hewitt, *Minnesota: Its Advantages to Settlers*, 37 (St. Paul, 1869).

publication was in effect an invitation to the hunter to come and take what he could get. This difference in emphasis suggests the change that has taken place in wild life conditions in Minnesota in the last sixty-five years. The growth of population, the spread of settlement far and wide over the state, and the penetration of once remote wilds by railroads and highways have resulted in an appalling diminution of game. It is no longer necessary to invite the hunter to Minnesota; he comes in legion, without invitation, to join the hordes of Minnesota hunters who throng the highways leading from every town and village from the beginning to the close of the season.

Even as long ago as the eighteen seventies, there were those among the older generation of sportsmen who were lamenting the decline in the abundance of game. The buffalo, the elk, and the antelope, that once roamed the Minnesota prairies in herds, were gone; and some of the smaller animals and game birds were decreasing in number. Charles Hallock, a famous sportsman of the day and the editor of *Forest and Stream*, on a visit to Minnesota in 1877, wrote:

What a place for game was the "land of the Dakotahs" . . . twenty years ago. . . . On the grand old meadows around Fort Snelling, and within hail of the sentry, that old frontiersman, Gen. H. H. Sibley . . . shot woodcock by the bagfull. . . . Norman Kittson and H. M. Rice, his contemporaries . . . and a score of gentlemen a few years younger . . . could tell us of the ponderous strings of snipe and ducks they once brought in from the sloughs on the river bottoms, the ruffed grouse from the ridges, and the deer from the adjacent timber and open prairie. They would smoke up a twenty-five pound canister of "Vanity Fair" tobacco before their yarn was fully spun. It is somewhat different now in these days, when the locomotives of half a dozen railway lines rumble out continually, and all the country round about is daily walked over and beaten up by the resident gunners of a city that has become metropolitan.²

But to the sportsman of today, Minnesota in the seventies was a hunter's paradise. Most of the game species that we have now were far more abundant then, and there

² *Forest and Stream*, 9: 419, 456 (January 3, 17, 1878).

were some that have since become extinct, or very rare. Moose, now greatly diminished in number, were comparatively common in the denser forests of the north, and now and then one wandered as far south as the vicinity of the Twin Cities. Caribou were fairly numerous in the counties along the northern border in the seventies; now there are in Minnesota only between thirty and forty of these animals, living in the bogs north and east of Upper Red Lake.



SHOOTING SANDHILL CRANES

[From *Scribner's Monthly*, 18:828 (October, 1879).]

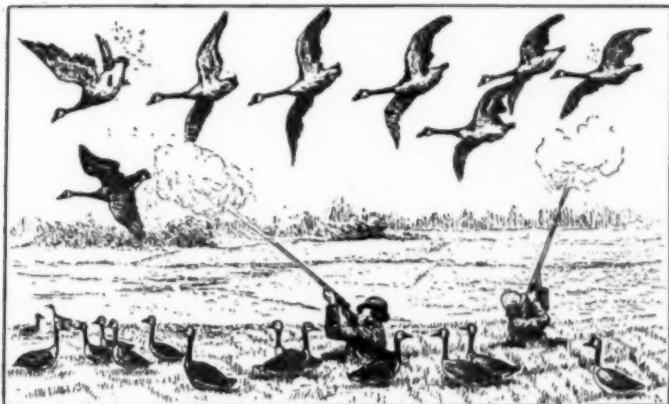
The white-tailed deer, which is still plentiful in the pine forests, and the black bear flourished in large numbers in the woods and groves in the southern part of the state. The smaller animals—beaver, red fox, mink, and others—were far more numerous and more widely distributed. Ducks, geese, and snipe were everywhere plentiful, and were slaughtered by the thousands both in the spring and the fall. The tragic story of the utter destruction of the passenger pigeon, which still came in the seventies in immense, compact flocks that darkened the skies, is well known. The

sandhill crane, which bred throughout the state, was hunted as a game bird and placed on sale in the markets of the larger cities. Plover, partridges, and prairie chickens were all abundant in the seventies, though the quail was probably not much more numerous than at present, and the ring-necked pheasant had not yet been introduced in the state. There are many references to pheasants and quail in Minnesota in the literature of the seventies, but this was due to the fact that many people called partridges "pheasants" or "quail."

In accounts written by travelers in the state, in the files of *Forest and Stream* and other periodicals, and in newspapers of the time, one may find ample testimony to the abundance of game in Minnesota sixty years ago. A visitor to the state in 1871 wrote: "In season whole cars full of game are shipped to other states; and the families that live here find it much cheaper to have pheasant, prairie chicken, wild duck, or venison on the table than to buy meat at the butcher shop." A member of a party that hunted in Otter Tail County in 1875 wrote that at Deer Creek the "prairie and stubble fields, seemingly as far as eye could reach, were literally alive with sharp-tailed grouse, hundreds and hundreds of them, some on the move, others standing perfectly still, watching us"; and at Parker's Prairie, a few miles farther south, grouse "were in myriads. . . . We shot grouse on the uplands, ducks and geese on the ponds, ruffed grouse in the thickets, more than we could use, more than we could give away." Another reported that in 1874 on the Red River flats ducks could "be found by the *million*. The shallow ponds, the streams, the larger lakes," he wrote, "are *alive* with them. It is no uncommon thing to see a thousand at once from the car window. . . . At times prairie chickens . . . are almost as abundant."³

³ Jacob Hodnefield, ed., "A Danish Visitor of the Seventies," *ante*, 10:312; *Forest and Stream*, 2:161; 4:145, 146 (April 23, 1874; April 15, 1875).

The Minnesota Valley was widely famed as a hunting country. A party hunting there in 1877 found the river bottom seven miles below Fort Ridgely "filled with patridges," and the neighboring prairies "alive with . . . chickens . . . running in immense flocks, some containing as many as two hundred birds." The same year a member of another party



SHOOTING WILD GEESSE

[From *Scribner's Monthly*, 18:838 (October, 1879).]

reported that in the Big Woods along the line of the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, now the Great Northern, deer and ruffed grouse were very plentiful, and that prairie chickens were found in large numbers between Darwin and Hermann. Duck and geese shooting, he wrote, was excellent in the neighborhood of Willmar.⁴

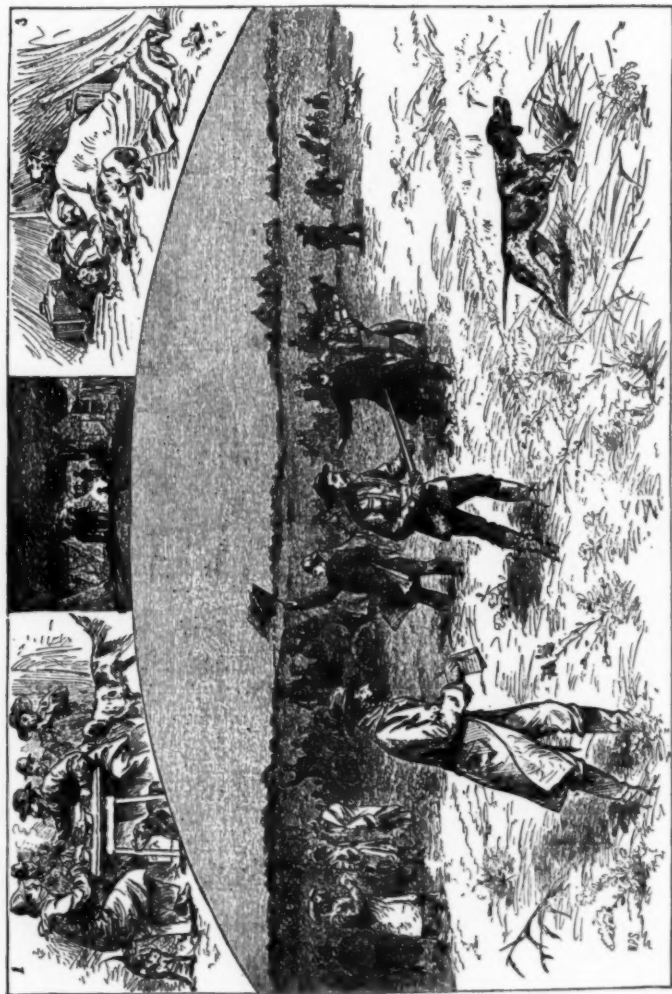
For several years in the seventies the state was afflicted with a plague of grasshoppers, and there was much discussion in the newspapers about the possible connection between their increase and the wholesale destruction of prairie chickens, for grasshoppers are a favorite food with these

⁴ *Forest and Stream*, 9: 195, 468 (October 11, 1877; January 24, 1878).

birds. In 1877 Kandiyohi, among other counties, suffered severely from the ravages of the hoppers, which left the grain fields in such condition that the farmers made no attempt to gather a harvest. To these fields game birds resorted in immense numbers, and "fairly reveled in their bounty." News of this spread, of course, and the region was overrun with hunters.⁵

The usual bag taken by a hunter in the seventies in a single day was not overwhelmingly large, considering the abundance of game; but that is not surprising, for, instead of the rapid-firing, repeating shotgun of today, he used a slow, single-shot weapon—usually muzzle-loading. The toll of game taken during a year, however, was tremendous, for there was no limit to the number of birds or animals that might be shot, and the open season was long. Game laws were not stringent nor well enforced. Minnesota's first game law, which was passed in 1858, prohibited the shooting of deer and elk for seven months during the year, and of sharp-tailed grouse, prairie chickens, partridges, and quail for five months. In 1871 a general game law was passed which established closed seasons for woodcock, prairie chickens, sharp-tailed grouse, quail, partridges, deer, and elk. It prohibited the killing of the upland game birds mentioned except by shooting them with a gun, and forbade the export of game for sale or traffic. From year to year during the decade the length of the open seasons varied to some extent, the tendency being toward shorter seasons. The legislature of 1875 provided for the first time a closed season for mink, muskrat, beaver, and otter. Aquatic fowl were not protected until 1877, when the season was closed from May to September; it was not until 1901 that the spring shooting of water fowl was prohibited. While the game laws of this period carried penalties for their infringe-

⁵Charles A. Zimmerman, "Field Sports in Minnesota," in *Scribner's Monthly*, 18: 826 (October, 1879); *Forest and Stream*, 4: 132 (April 8, 1875).



MINNESOTA FIELD TRIALS, 1878

[From *Forest and Stream*, 11: 183 (October 3, 1878).]

ment, they failed to provide adequate machinery for their enforcement. There were no game wardens, and prosecutions could be made only on complaint before a justice of the peace.⁶

Dogs were as important to the hunter of sixty years ago as they are to the sportsman of today. Accounts of hunting expeditions of the time are full of references to dogs and their work in the field. A contributor to *Forest and Stream* wrote that the formation of a sportsmen's club at Brainerd had resulted in more attention to the raising of good dogs. "Curs," he said, "are at a discount. Good dogs cost no more to keep, and . . . gentlemen are glad to see well bred dogs multiplied." The kennels of S. B. Dilley of Lake City, who bred pointers, were noted throughout the country. Dilley's pointer Royal Fan won first prize in her class in the New York bench show of 1877; and his dog Ranger was a champion. There was a bench show for dogs at the state fair in 1878, which, with the field trials held at Sauk Center the following week, attracted much attention among sportsmen throughout the country. The judges' decisions at the field trials were the subject of many columns of controversy in the *American Field* and in *Forest and Stream*; but the most interesting aspect of the event was the indifferent, not to say disdainful, attitude of Minnesota hunters toward the whole affair. The following comment appeared in *Forest and Stream*:⁷

The old hunters of Minnesota . . . are rather inclined to look upon these field trials as popinjay affairs, which may do very well for the East, but are of no account on these "perairies," and so, after the first half day satisfied their curiosity, they began to branch off in all directions with their "out-fits," (and some of them are certainly most completely "heeled,") and bring back wagon loads of ducks and

⁶ *General Laws*, 1858, p. 40; 1871, p. 79-83; 1875, p. 159; 1877, p. 91; 1901, p. 37.

⁷ *Forest and Stream*, 2: 161; 6: 1, 4; 8: 183, 231; 11: 132-134 (April 23, 1874; February 10, 1876; April 26, May 17, 1877; September 19, 1878); Zimmerman, in *Scribner's Monthly*, 18: 826 (October, 1879).

chickens. . . . Mr. Beaupre, the President of the [Minnesota Kennel] Club, bestows some considerable attention to the trials by virtue of his office . . . but he frequently drops out with . . . one of the crowd, and goes off to the "slews" and ridges, and brings home a box load of trophies.

The hunter of the seventies had no fast and comfortable automobile to carry him over smooth highways to his favorite hunting grounds; nevertheless he managed exceedingly well. If he had only a day at his disposal, he drove his own or a hired horse and buggy—or more frequently a wagon, which held more equipment—to hunting grounds near by. If, however, he wanted more extended shooting, he traveled by railroad to the location of his choice. "On any route," wrote Hallock, "the sportsman has only to select his objective point, disembark, and locate himself at some inn or hospitable dwelling, where ordinary comforts are obtainable." The line of the Great Northern from the Twin Cities to Breckenridge, the Sioux City and St. Paul, now the Northwestern road, along the Minnesota River, and the Northern Pacific from Brainerd west were the favorite routes. At Brainerd trains rested over Sunday, and there, according to Hallock, "at Col. Weed's 'Head Quarters Hotel,'" could be seen "typical characters of all sorts . . . gentlemen-sportsmen with dogs, plethoric outfits, and a retinue of servants—'well-heeled,' as they say out there—going to the grouse country."⁸

Some of the wealthier sportsmen kept complete wagon outfits constantly in readiness, which, according to Hallock, they shipped "in a box car hither and yon at will." One enthusiastic St. Paul hunter, E. R. Warner, the superintendent of the American Express Company, according to the same writer, "ingeniously transformed an express wagon into a hunting cart, with sections for ice, provisions, and equipment; racks for guns, lockers for ammunition, and a canvas-covered kennel large enough for half a dozen dogs."

⁸ *Forest and Stream*, 9: 419, 437 (January 3, 10, 1878).

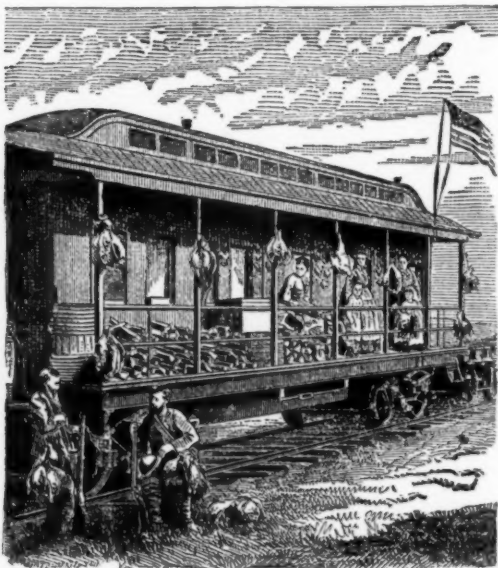
A canvas awning provided shade, and there were side curtains that could be buttoned on for protection against rain. The seats were fitted with easy springs, and the sides were low enough to permit easy mounting and dismounting—a great advantage on a hunt for upland game. All the railroad lines had special coaches, called “business cars,” fitted with bunks and cooking apparatus, which might be chartered by hunting parties and run over the lines to any point desired. Very often one or more hunters would charter a hand car and run it over the tracks to a likely spot.⁹

It remained for a party from the East to show Minnesota sportsmen how to hunt in the grand manner. In the fall of 1875 a group of hunters from Worcester, Massachusetts, including Jerome Marble and C. C. Houghton, arrived in Brainerd to hunt upland game birds. The Northern Pacific Railroad furnished them with a car fitted with berths, tables, and cooking apparatus, and in it they traveled over the line of the road to the Red River Valley. Their car was placed on sidings and they hunted leisurely along the way. So pleased were they with the country and its opportunities for hunting that in 1876 and again in 1877 Marble and Houghton returned to Brainerd to shoot “ducks, geese, chickens, and plover.” They chartered two cars, one of them “divided into kitchen, dining-room, and drawing-room, with the usual palace car berths,” and the other “devoted to the four hunting dogs, a supply store and game depot, and a sleeping room for one of the party.” The two sportsmen were accompanied by their wives and daughters and two English army officers.

It would seem that hunting under such conditions would have satisfied the most fastidious of sportsmen; but evidently Jerome Marble felt that there was room for improvement. In 1878 he returned to Minnesota with a party of twelve. This time he came in a private car, the “City of

⁹ *Forest and Stream*, 9: 419, 456; 11: 37 (January 3, 17, August 15, 1878).

Worcester," which had been constructed under his supervision "with special attention to the wants of those who may go for a month or two on the plains in a hunting expedition." The car remained in St. Paul for a day, and according to the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, "It was the centre of an



A HUNTING CAR ON THE ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS AND MANITOBA RAILROAD

[From the *American Traveller's Journal*, 2:4 (August, 1881).]

unusual degree of interest." This "palatial home on wheels," as it was described at the time, might well be the "centre of an unusual degree of interest" even in these more sophisticated times. The exterior was finished in "lake color," and "ornamented with gold leaf and silver mouldings." The steps leading to the platform were mahogany, with brass treads. On the platform was a large

refrigerator, a coal box, and a water tank, and under the car were four lockers for ice, tools, vegetables, and miscellaneous stores. The interior was finished in black walnut, rosewood, and mahogany, and ornamented with gold leaf and silver plate. The furniture was upholstered in crimson plush, the curtains were "of rich silk damask" in green and brown, and the carpet was velvet brussels. There was a reading room furnished with a sofa which might be transformed into two beds, and a "grand drawing-room and dining room," furnished with six permanent seats, a dining table, a "Needham musical cabinet," portable tables "for cards or sewing," twelve double berths, silver-plated oil lamps, and two French plate-glass mirrors with embossed borders. A large closet, washrooms with tanks equipped with "double-action pumps of the latest pattern" for drinking and washing water, a butler's pantry with a china closet and shelves, and a kitchen with a large range and a water tank and pump completed the equipment.

After a visit to the state fair, which that year offered, among other attractions, an address by President Rutherford B. Hayes, an exhibition by the world-famous marksman, Captain A. H. Bogardus, a fox hunt by English gentlemen from Martin County, and the bench show for dogs already mentioned, the party spent a day fishing on Lake Minnetonka, and then set out, in all their splendor and magnificence, for the wilds of western Minnesota and Dakota.¹⁰

MARY WHEELHOUSE BERTHEL

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

¹⁰ *Forest and Stream*, 5: 106; 9: 230; 11: 37, 139 (September 23, 1875; October 25, 1877; August 15, September 19, 1878); *Pioneer Press*, September 7, 1878.

THE TOURIST TRAFFIC OF PIONEER MINNESOTA

Minnesota's popularity as a pleasure resort dates back to the thirties, when boatloads of visitors journeyed up the river to Fort Snelling. By the middle fifties the reputation of several upper river towns was established. It is recorded that the four principal hostelries of St. Paul, the Fuller House, the Merchants' Hotel, the American House, and the Winslow House, provided accommodations for a thousand visitors in one week in the autumn of 1856. The total number of persons registered during the season of that year is said to have been twenty-eight thousand, a figure which, while undoubtedly too high, nevertheless indicates a large tourist traffic.¹ The following letters, published in the *Congregationalist* of Boston for September 12 and 19, 1856, were written by a New Englander recently returned from a visit to St. Paul. They are highly illuminating, not only in their description of points of interest in Minnesota, but in their contrast of eastern dignity and stability with the restless hustle and hurry of the frontier towns just before the panic of 1857.

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NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

[From the *Congregationalist*, 8: 145 (September 12, 1856).]

A TRIP TO ST. PAUL'S

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Having recently returned from an excursion to St. Paul's, and the upper Mississippi, it has occurred to me that a few notes of travel through a region of so much interest, may possibly not be unwelcome to your readers.

¹ J. Fletcher Williams, *History of the City of Saint Paul, and of the County of Ramsey, Minnesota*, 365 (*Minnesota Historical Collections*, vol. 4).

Never was the tide of travel greater in our country, perhaps, than it has been this season, and of this travel a full share has set towards the magnificent territories of the Northwest. Every car, every steamer, every hotel, has been full, crowded, and running over. I refer not now to the emigration which is constantly going on, but to the pleasure travel. A trip to Minnesota has become quite fashionable this season, with those who seek diversion, and change of place in the summer months. Many Southern people who formerly resorted to Saratoga, or Newport, now take the excursion up the Mississippi, as far as St. Paul's, and there pass the hot months of July and August.

A tour to St. Paul's would once have been thought a great undertaking; now it is only an affair of a few days. From the Atlantic to the Mississippi, from Boston to Dubuque, or Davenport, one may pass now in forty-eight hours of continuous travel; and in as many more he may reach the head waters of present steam navigation on that mighty river, at St. Paul's. There, fifteen hundred miles from home, he finds himself just on the borders of that vast region of which he has heard so much—the great West. The great West is still beyond him. He is only half way to the Pacific. He is in the very center of the country, and not at its extremity. To his surprise he finds himself in the midst of the busy life and movement that is setting with irresistible tide onward to the regions that lie still beyond.

Nothing strikes an observer with more astonishment, as he comes from the Eastern States to the Western, than the *tremendous energy* with which all the enterprises of life and business are conducted, in these newer settlements. Everything is on the high pressure system. Men move as if the Prince of evil was after them. There is no appearance of leisure, quiet, or comfort about anybody. Society presses on like a herd of mad buffaloes, intent only on progress, and it is impossible for an individual in the mass to resist this impetuosity of the general rush, and set up for calmness and consideration on his own hook. Onward is the law. And it is astonishing to one who goes from the quiet and staid streets and manners of some very proper and respectable New England town, where everything moves on with the regularity of the planets, and the steadiness of the old church clock, to observe the difference. As he looks along the busy streets of some of the more rapidly growing cities, he hardly knows whether

to think that everybody is mad, or crazy, or rushing to put out a fire. He soon catches the general spirit and enthusiasm, rushes here and there with all the energy of a man bent on great enterprises, and comes back to his quiet New England home, if he comes back at all, only to be astonished in turn at the absolute deadness of everything and everybody that he sees.

This life and energy is the secret of the rapid growth of the Western cities. It explains what would otherwise be unaccountable. We have all heard much of this growth, but a few facts will make it more evident and tangible than any general statement. It is scarcely five years, for instance, since the first settlement of St. Paul's. It is now a large and spacious city, with its busy streets, and capacious warehouses, its little fleet of steamers at its wharves, its large and elegant public buildings, its schools, churches, and public institutions, its female academy of the highest order, and its college. Back of all this, and animating it all, is a population of some ten thousand inhabitants. A gentleman residing at St. Paul's, but who had been absent some five or six weeks, pointed out to me as we walked up from the landing to the Hotel, not less than ten or fifteen new buildings that had gone up entirely during those few weeks, on that single street, and some of them were large and fine buildings.² The same thing, he assured me, was going on in all parts of the city. Edifices of brick and stone rise, as by magic, almost in a day. A gentleman whom I met, residing, I think, in Iowa, told me that on returning to his home, in one of the little towns, sprung up in that State, he found that during the four weeks of his absence, forty new dwelling-houses had been erected, and most of them were already completed and occupied.

² The author speaks with some exaggeration of the youthfulness of St. Paul. Permanent settlement began in 1840, and in 1849 the population of the town was between two hundred and fifty and three hundred. The estimate of the number of inhabitants in 1856 is probably high, since the census of the following year, a generous report, records only slightly more than ten thousand persons as living in St. Paul. Among the buildings which were in the process of construction in 1856 were the city hall, the cathedral, the Assumption Church, and the Jackson Street Methodist Episcopal Church. Cornerstones of a building for the Minnesota Historical Society and of a projected Masonic Hall were laid with great ceremony, but neither building was ever raised above its foundation. The writer explains below that the female academy referred to was the Baldwin School, founded by the Reverend Edward D. Neill in 1853. Edward D. Neill, *History of Minnesota*, 494 (Minneapolis, 1882); Williams, *Saint Paul*, 363.

It is interesting to observe the character of the population that is crowding to these new territories. Wisconsin seems to be settled largely by New England people. Minnesota is, thus far, mainly so, I should judge. Iowa is, perhaps, almost equally indebted to New England. These people have come from their early homes, among the hills and valleys of the North, bringing with them to their new home, all their associations and attainments, their love of order, their correct moral principles, their regard for religious institutions, their industry and sound sense, all that has made New England what she is to-day. These qualifications they have brought with them, and with these as the basis, animated and pervaded by the life and energy of Western enterprise, they are sure to prosper. Such a people cannot fail of success.

It is pleasant to notice the attention paid in these newer States and Territories of the Northwest, both to education and to religion. In the larger and more flourishing towns and cities, the principal religious denominations are represented by large and often elegant church edifices, in the smaller settlements by ruder and less costly structures; but wherever you find a place of any considerable size, there you find, in some form, the church and the school-house. The high school, the academy, the college, are not usually far behind in the progress and growth of the place. I have seen nowhere in New England larger and more flourishing schools of the higher grade, or larger, and more convenient and costly buildings for their accommodation, than I saw in not a few of these Western cities. In St. Paul's, for example, though of recent origin, as I have said, there is a female school of the highest grade, called the Baldwin school, which is hardly second to any in Massachusetts in the course of study, the character of teaching and scholarship, or the convenience of its appointments and fixtures. A little way from this stands, on a commanding elevation, overlooking the broad river to a great distance in each direction, a large and elegant building of lime-stone, just approaching completion, designed as a college edifice. In Davenport, Iowa, also, a large and handsome college building has been recently erected, of stone, at once capacious, convenient and elegant, superior, in these respects, to any college building in Massachusetts, with the exception of Gore Hall at Cambridge.³

³ The College of St. Paul, here referred to, was created under the general territorial incorporation law in 1855. Neill was the president both of the college and of the Baldwin School. Both school and college closed

I cannot forbear to mention, in this connection, the name of one to whom Minnesota, and especially St. Paul's, is largely indebted for her moral and educational advantages, as well as her material growth and development. I refer to Rev. Edward Neill, one of the most devoted, indefatigable, earnest, yet modest advocates and promoters of sound morals, sound learning and true religion, whom it has ever been my fortune to meet. One of the earliest pioneers to this remote, and then unknown settlement, he was one of the first to perceive its importance and its destiny, and to call attention to its yet undeveloped resources. Owing, in great measure, to his exertions, a press was established, a church gathered, a school opened, and the first foundations laid of the present prosperity of St. Paul's. The Baldwin school existed first in his conception. The college of St. Paul's is almost wholly his creation. Having gathered a large and strong church within a convenient and costly edifice, he left them, not long since, to take care of themselves, and set about gathering a new congregation in another quarter of the city. They meet, at present, in a rude school-house, where I had the pleasure of hearing an excellent discourse from Mr. Neill, on the dangers and duties of the emigrant to a new home. It is pleasant to meet with such instances of youthful and efficient labor in the new s[e]ttlements of our country, and to know that such men are not unappreciated by those for whom they labor.⁴

Of the scenery and face of the country along the upper Mississippi, I have, as yet, said nothing. A nobler, grander region of country than that whole Northwest, is not to be found, I venture to say, on this continent. The utmost fertility, and the utmost extent, at once

during the lean years that followed the panic of 1857. Macalester College is the successor to these unsuccessful efforts initiated by Neill in the years before the Civil War. The Iowa college mentioned by the writer was probably the Ladies College, later known as the Mount Ida Female College, which opened at Davenport in May, 1855. Gore Hall is still in use as one of the Harvard University buildings. Henry D. Funk, *History of Macalester College*, 29-49 (St. Paul, 1910); Leonard F. Parker, *Higher Education in Iowa*, 173 (United States Bureau of Education, *Circulars of Information*, no. 6—Washington, 1893).

⁴Neill, who arrived at St. Paul in 1849 as a young Presbyterian minister after serving as a home missionary near Galena, Illinois, was a leader in the intellectual and religious life of St. Paul and Minnesota until his death in 1893. He has been called Minnesota's "Apostle of Education" by Dr. William W. Folwell in his *History of Minnesota*, 4: 434-442 (St. Paul, 1930). The new church referred to is the House of Hope, which Neill had only recently organized.

and equally characterize these broad lands. Fields of apparently interminable size, waving with the richest and heaviest crops, stretch away on every side, as far as the eye can reach, as you whirl rapidly along through Northern Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa. The introduction of the newly invented agricultural machinery, especially of the combined mower and reaper, has enabled the farmers of this region to cultivate at least ten times the number of acres that they could otherwise have done. Immense fields of wheat are sown every year, which but for these machines could never be reaped, simply for want of laborers.⁵

To one unaccustomed to such a broad expanse, the Western prairie is a novel and a strange spectacle. A great sea of land, unbroken, and apparently without limit or bound, now gently undulating, now perfectly level, extends on every side to the farthest horizon. Here and there the log hut of a settler breaks the monotony of loneliness with its indications of life and civilization—around it cultivated fields—then again the undisturbed prairie grass, on a soil that has never known the plough, nor felt the foot of man.

This description applies only to the regions interior and back from the river. Along the Mississippi the scenery is of a bolder and more impressive character. The banks rise into lofty, and sometimes precipitous bluffs, on either side, varying in height from one hundred to two or three hundred feet, generally green to the summit, except where now and then a mass of grey limestone crops out on the side next the river, and assumes the rounded and fantastic shape of some old ruin, with its walls and towers, and crumbling battlements, strangely reminding you of the castellated ruins of the Rhine. These hills vary in outline, and are broken by frequent ravines running back from the river, and separating the adjacent slopes from each other. Along these opposite slopes, patches of forest trees are scattered, without undergrowth, save the green grass, the trees so far apart as to admit the sunlight freely, and casting beautiful shadows on the green sward and along the gentle slopes far below them. The whole pre-

⁵ The rapid increase in the use of agricultural machinery in the late fifties and sixties is indicated in the records of the McCormick Historical Association in Chicago. The Minnesota Historical Society has film copies of Minnesota order lists covering the period from 1854 to 1871 and of a number of letters written by agents who represented the company in Minnesota.

sents a rare combination of the elements of beauty, and forms a landscape more pleasing and lovely than the eye is often permitted to rest upon. No grander, no more beautiful scenery, is to be found in the United States, probably, than that which meets the eye for some 500 miles along the Mississippi above Dubuque. No lover of the picturesque should fail to visit this romantic region. H.

[From the *Congregationalist*, 8: 149 (September 19, 1856).]

INTERESTING OBJECTS IN THE VICINITY OF ST. PAUL'S

The region of St. Paul's abounds in objects of interest to the traveler. A ride of a few hours takes you to the Cave, Fort Snelling, the Falls of Minnehaha, and the Falls of St. Anthony, each well worthy of a visit.

Chartering a carriage, and a span of stout Western horses for the expedition, and making up a little party to suit your taste, from the numerous visitors all bent, like yourself, on sight-seeing, you start off in such spirits as this pure northern air alone can inspire, and a ride of a few miles brings you to the cave. This is quite a curiosity in its way. You have seen caves before, great and small; but probably never one precisely like this. The rock composing the roof and sides of the cave, is simply a bed of pure white sand, or silex, sufficiently compact to adhere, but capable of being easily cut with a knife. You cannot imagine anything purer or whiter than this sand-rock. A small stream, a rill of water, has worn itself a channel through this bed of sand-stone, and thus formed the cave. At the opening, or mouth, the cavern is of very respectable height, allowing you to stand erect; you can proceed, in fact, some little distance in this way; presently, however, the walls contract to a much smaller space, leaving you barely room to creep in, if you are so disposed, on hands and knees, over the pure sand, along the margin of the rivulet, for a considerable distance farther. As the light penetrates but a short distance beyond the mouth of the cave, you must depend on the torch of birch-bark which your guide manufactures for the occasion, for the means of exploration.*

*The writer probably visited Fountain Cave, located in the bank of the Mississippi River some four miles above the main settlement at St. Paul. Major Stephen H. Long explored and described it in 1817. He chose the name because of a "fine crystal stream [which] flows through

Emerging from the sand-cave, you resume your carriage, and soon reach the ferry over the Minnesota, at its junction with the Mississippi.⁷ Crossing this, you land at Fort Snelling, which is beautifully situated on the high bank, or bluff, above the stream, near the junction of the two rivers. The fort was intended, probably, as a place of refuge and protection to the early settlers, from the hostile incursions of their Indian neighbors. A high wall encloses a large area, within which are several stone buildings used as barracks and store-houses for the garrison.

Passing on, you find yourself now upon the broad, open prairie, the soil, as far as you can see, quite undisturbed by any trace of man, or any signs of civilization. Here and there the wild rose, or some beautiful prairie flower, invites you to leave your carriage to admire, and perchance, to plunder. Presently your driver reins up, you hardly know why, and invites you to step out; you obey, seeing however, no occasion for such a manoeuvre just then, but ready to avail yourself of whatever may turn up. A few steps from the road side brings you to the bank of a ravine, and lo, before you lies that little vision of exquisite beauty, the Falls of Minnehaha! Was ever anything more perfect devised in the way of waterfall, than this gem of a cataract? The stream itself is small—one might almost leap across it—and shallow withal; but just at the edge of the precipice, it spreads out to a very respectable width, and springs over the rock and into the ravine below, in the most joyous and playful manner possible. The descent is some sixty feet perpendicular, which it takes at one bound, and with a shout as of merry laughter, like the joyous shout of children at their play. It could not say Ha! Ha! more plainly than it does. Hence the beautifully significant Indian name, Falls of Ha, Ha. The readers of *Hiawatha* need not be reminded that this fall is spoken of in that beautiful poem; indeed the scene of much of the poem is laid in the region about St. Paul's.

the cavern, and cheers the lonesome dark retreat with its enlivening murmurs." Long, "Voyage in a Six-Oared Skiff to the Falls of Saint Anthony in 1817," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 2:32; Warren Upham, *Minnesota Geographic Names*, 444 (*Minnesota Historical Collections*, vol. 17).

⁷Until 1926, when a concrete bridge was completed, a ferry was the only means of crossing the Minnesota River at Fort Snelling. *Minneapolis Journal*, August 1, 1926.

"In the land of the Dahcotahs,
In the land of handsome women."⁸

The entire region from the Minnesota at its junction with the Father of Waters, to the shores of Lake Superior, constitutes the original home and hunting ground of these fierce and noble warriors. Nor are they yet extinct, nor have they forsaken their former and favorite resorts. They are to be found in considerable numbers in the vicinity. Sometimes you see them gliding along in their canoes near the mouth of some tributary that flows into the Mississippi, as you sail past in your course along that mighty river. Sometimes you come upon a little lodge or camp of them, as you explore the prairies. Not long before our visit they had a war dance within a few miles of St. Paul's, and made night hideous with their rejoicing over the scalps of some newly slain Sioux, with whom they have a deadly feud.⁹

To Rev. Mr. Neill, I am indebted for much interesting information respecting this tribe, whose habits, are, many of them, strange and peculiar. Christianity seems to make little impression on them, as yet, so firmly rooted and inveterate are these habits of savage and warrior life. It is not long since at noon day a Dahcotah warrior entered St. Paul's, passed up the crowded streets, made his way into a house where dwelt a little girl, of the Sioux tribe,¹⁰ who had found a home with a Christian family, seized the child, bore her into the street, despatched her with a blow of his tomahawk, and bore off her scalp in triumph, making his escape before the alarm was given, or any one had perceived his intentions. A war dance celebrated the cruel exploit—hardly less valorous and noble than some recent exhibitions of Southern chivalry. Indeed the cowardly attack of Brooks upon an unarmed and defenceless man, and the great war dance of the entire South over the heroic achievement, are quite in the Dahcotah fashion.

⁸ Longfellow's poem *The Song of Hiawatha*, which brought fame to Minnehaha Falls, was published in 1855. For further information regarding the composition of the work, see notes on "Minnehaha Falls and Longfellow's 'Hiawatha,'" *ante*, 8:281, 422-424.

⁹ The Sioux or Dakota of southern Minnesota and the Chippewa or Ojibway of the north were traditional enemies. The writer here gives the erroneous impression that the enemies of the Sioux, and not the Sioux themselves, lived in the vicinity of St. Paul.

¹⁰ The writer again confuses the names of the Minnesota Indian tribes; Dakota is simply another name for Sioux.

Should South Carolina conclude to leave the Union, in the event of Fremont's election, she could not do better than to form an alliance at once with this interesting tribe of fellow-savages.¹¹

Of the Falls of St. Anthony, our limits forbid us to speak. They are of no special interest to one who has seen other waterfalls, being remarkable neither for beauty nor sublimity. And so without long delay, you continue your ride, and reach St. Paul's toward evening, having enjoyed an excursion of rare interest, and a day long to be remembered.

H.

¹¹ The reference is to the assault by Preston Brooks, a representative from South Carolina, upon Charles Sumner, senator from Massachusetts, two days after the latter's famous speech on "The Crime against Kansas," delivered in the Senate on May 19 and 20, 1856.

PIONEER ROADS CENTERING AT DULUTH

Travelers long relied upon canoe routes and portages or upon overland trails through the woods to make the passage between the upper Mississippi and the waters of the St. Lawrence system about the head of Lake Superior. Such navigable waterways, separated by a low divide, early looked inviting as terminals for a road over the watershed. As the desire to travel and transport goods between lake and river increased, portage routes and trails came to be considered too slow and antiquated for Minnesotans. The first plans for a road to western Lake Superior included an interior terminus on the Mississippi River.

The Minnesota territorial legislature of 1849 sent two memorials to Congress asking for such a roadway. First, it requested a road between the junction of the St. Croix and the Mississippi and the falls of the St. Louis, the head of the navigable St. Lawrence system. After a ten-day interval the legislature made a second request, asking for a mail route between the falls of the St. Croix and Fond du Lac, where lived a group of settlers entirely destitute of mail service. Mineral exploitation at Fond du Lac was expected by many people to follow the opening of the Sault canal.¹ Consequently, they advocated a road over which supplies might reach the copper towns that they anticipated would develop at the head of Lake Superior.

In 1851 Captain J. H. Simpson of the United States corps of topographical engineers surveyed the route between Point Douglas at the junction of the St. Croix and the Mississippi and the head of navigation on the St. Louis. Work

¹ John R. Carey, "History of Duluth, and of St. Louis County, to the Year 1870," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 9:245; J. W. Putnam, *Minnesota: A Description of the Natural, Political, Mechanical and Agricultural State of the Country*, 26 (Galena, 1849).

apparently ceased with the survey and no road had reached the head of the lake in 1854, for in that year an English traveler who wished to journey from Superior to St. Paul was informed that all trails were nearly hidden by vegetation and he therefore followed a canoe route. Construction work probably was started from the Point Douglas end of the route, since Congress appropriated twenty thousand dollars for the purpose in January, 1853, and a like sum in July, 1854.² Following the completion of the first twenty-four miles, contractors built a second division of nineteen miles, thus opening more of the lands along the right of way to lumberman and settler. One writer predicted that, upon the opening of the road, St. Paul would receive all its goods by way of Lake Superior and land lying north of St. Paul would be valued in proportion to its nearness to the lake.³

Pursuant to earlier Congressional legislation, about two-fifths of the route was opened, following the survey stakes leading to the falls of the St. Louis; but an act of July, 1854, made the mouth of the St. Louis River, in Wisconsin, the terminus. With parties working at either end of the route, Captain Simpson reported that the completion of the road by December 15, 1855, was likely. A volunteer company of seventeen men opened a winter road between Superior and Taylor's Falls in 1854, a fact that probably helped to fix the terminus of the federal road at Superior, rather than at the falls of the St. Louis, near Fond du Lac.

² "Sketch Indicating the Advancement of the Surveys of the Public Lands and the Military Topographical and Geographical Surveys West of the Mississippi," 1879, in George M. Wheeler, *Report upon United States Geographical Surveys West of the One Hundredth Meridian*, 412 (Washington, 1889); Edward V. Robinson, *Early Economic Conditions and the Development of Agriculture in Minnesota*, 33 (Minneapolis, 1915); Laurence Oliphant, *Minnesota and the Far West*, 164 (London, 1855); 34 Congress, 1 session, *House Executive Documents*, no. 1, pt. 2, p. 482 (serial 841).

³ J. Wesley Bond, *Minnesota and Its Resources*, 223 (Chicago, 1857); *Immigrants Guide to Minnesota in 1856*, 111 (St. Anthony, 1856).

Financial support was derived from Congress under guise of military necessity.⁴ Proponents of the road suggested that it would prove useful in case of an Indian uprising. Superior seemed more deserving of protection than Duluth because it had a decidedly more numerous population. In 1854-55 residents of Superior established a line of stages between their settlement and St. Paul.⁵ Boats and sleighs took travelers across the bay to and from Duluth. The Minnesota Stage Company, a St. Paul firm, soon absorbed the stage line.

A Minnesota publicist wrote in 1856 that the "Saint Louis River and Point Douglas Road" had been completed to within about fifty miles of Lake Superior. He did not refer to the status of a road designated on his map as the "St. Paul & Superior" and located some miles west of the "Pt. Douglass & Superior" road.⁶ Planners hoped to build a road for all-season use over this second route, which roughly paralleled the first. A memorial sent to Congress about this time asked for fifteen thousand dollars for a road from St. Paul to intersect the Point Douglas and Lake Superior road near the eighty-first mile post.⁷

Little seems to have been done on the eastern road in February, 1856, when a missionary and his party spent nine days in traveling from St. Paul to Duluth. They made the best speed on the St. Croix River ice, encountered temperatures as low as twenty-eight degrees below zero, and were obliged to thaw provisions before using them and to melt

⁴ 33 Congress, 2 session, *House Executive Documents*, no. 1, pt. 2, p. 345 (serial 778); Dwight E. Woodbridge and John S. Pardee, eds., *History of Duluth and St. Louis County*, 1: 229 (Chicago, 1910); Frank A. Flower, *Eye of the Northwest*, 54 (Milwaukee, 1890).

⁵ Frank R. Holmes, *Minnesota in Three Centuries*, 4: 312 (New York, 1908).

⁶ Bond, *Minnesota*, 224. Parts of these and other early roads are shown on township survey plats in the office of the Minnesota secretary of state, St. Paul.

⁷ Nathan H. Parker, *The Minnesota Handbook for 1856-7*, 133 (Boston, 1857); *Session Laws*, 1856, p. 373; 35 Congress, 2 session, *House Reports*, no. 183 (serial 1018).

snow in order to provide water for their horses.⁸ Part of the western road, the St. Paul and Superior, existed in 1858, for the state legislature provided at that time for a road, in the vicinity of Wyoming, to connect it with the old road to the eastward. Residents of early Superior and Duluth refer to traffic on the eastern route as moving over the "winter road" or the "summer trail," and to that on the western route as using what they always considered the "Military Road." The later western road apparently received financial support from three sources—Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the federal government. The road was authorized "to facilitate the transportation of soldiers and supplies in case of Indian uprisings."⁹

Mail service to Duluth and Superior, especially in the fifties, proved unreliable and unsatisfactory. Even under favorable weather conditions, Superior received mail from St. Paul but once a week. In the spring and fall, contractors carried the mail bags on their backs. In seasons when the roadway froze or thawed they carried only letters, and sometimes travel was so difficult that they missed a mail date. When newspapers arrived at the head of the lake they were sometimes a month or more old. Mail service was extended by contract across the bay from Superior to Oneota in 1856 and to Duluth the next year, the contractor using a boat in summer and a dog team in winter.¹⁰ In the fall of 1856 the service became disorganized and after the close of navigation no mail arrived by overland routes for about six weeks. Late in the same season half-breeds carried flour and pork from camps on the St. Croix to the settlements at the head of the lake in order to keep them

⁸ Walter Van Brunt, *Duluth and St. Louis County*, 1: 107 (Chicago, 1921).

⁹ *Special Laws*, 1858, p. 112; John A. Bardon, "Superior's Military Road." The latter is a manuscript in the possession of the Superior Public Library.

¹⁰ Woodbridge and Pardee, *Duluth*, 1: 212; *Commemorative Biographical Record of the Upper Lake Region*, 72 (Chicago, 1905).



PIONEER ROADS CENTERING AT THE HEAD OF LAKE SUPERIOR

supplied with food until teams could get through on the winter road from Hudson and Stillwater.

Passengers who went by lake boat from the East to the northern end of the route and found the road to St. Paul impassable were obliged in some instances to return to the East by boat. Others remained permanently and became citizens of Duluth. Travelers found the eastern road usable to some degree in summer and better after it was frozen in winter. At times they described it as excellent, with many teams passing over it each day. By 1857 hundreds had used this older "military road" as a connecting link between the more satisfactory travel routes terminating at Superior and St. Paul. Twin Lakes, a station near which the western road joined the eastern and where stage drivers changed teams, was made the seat of Carlton County on its organization in 1856—a fact that suggests the importance of this travel route. As Twin Lakes was but a few miles southwest of Fond du Lac, contractors received there north-bound mail destined for the Lake Superior settlements of Minnesota. They carried this mail to Fond du Lac and from there to Oneota and Duluth by water, ice, or land.¹¹ In the winter of 1858–59, mail and passenger sleighs traversed the route between Superior and St. Paul in each direction three times a week. Passengers paid ten dollars for one-way transportation, and at times they made the trip in as few as thirty-six hours. Later, mail reached Superior but once weekly. The Minnesota legislature in a memorial to the president pleaded that this service was insufficient and asked that the triweekly trips be re-established.¹²

Expenditures by the federal government on the eastern route seem altogether disproportionate to the usability of

¹¹ Woodbridge and Pardee, *Duluth*, 1: 196, 256; James S. Ritchie, *Wisconsin and Its Resources*, 230, 240 (Chicago, 1858); William H. C. Folsom, *Fifty Years in the Northwest*, 484 (St. Paul, 1888); Carey, in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 9: 268.

¹² James S. Ritchie, *City of Superior*, 16 (Philadelphia, 1859); *Laws*, 1861, p. 351.

the road built there. During the years from 1850 to 1857 appropriations for the road between Point Douglas and the mouth of the St. Louis River averaged nearly seven hundred dollars a mile, totaling more than a hundred and twenty thousand dollars. Even at the close of this period vehicles could not use the road at all seasons. At times mail was delayed for weeks along the way. Government officials sent by way of Chicago communications between St. Paul and Duluth. Persons of experience suggested the use of a similar roundabout route for passengers. A family that left Duluth in 1860 for Red Wing and St. Paul took passage on the lake propeller "Ogantz" bound for Milwaukee, thence traveled overland, largely by stage, to La Crosse, and from there by Mississippi steamer to its destination. In the same year a resident of Duluth advised a friend not to try to bring his wife and children overland from St. Paul, since the connecting road offered a trying journey even for a strong man.¹³

In 1861 tree stumps remained along the roadway, turn-outs wide enough for teams to pass occurred only at places where trees had been felled, and marshy spots were bridged with a curduroy surface of the trunks. Under such conditions the first woman to travel by stage from St. Paul to Superior made the journey. From Superior she and her family took a ferry across the bay to Duluth, where they joined about a dozen families huddled about the base of Minnesota Point in a settlement that did not persist far into the Civil War period. A proprietor of the Duluth town-site, who wished to volunteer for service in the Civil War, lacked the thirty-five dollars needed for stage fare to St. Paul, where the recruiting office was located, so he traveled, accompanied by his wife and daughter, by canoe, following the St. Louis River system and the Savanna portage to the waters of the upper Mississippi. In the fall of 1868 an

¹³ Minnesota Commissioner of Statistics, *Reports*, 1860, p. 169; Woodbridge and Pardee, *Duluth*, 1: 83, 245.

early settler at the head of the lakes moved a family from there to St. Paul, taking four weeks for the round trip. The next summer an Oneota teamster swam his oxen from Rice's Point, Duluth, to Connor's Point, Wisconsin, to begin a similar journey. News of the ending of the Civil War was taken from St. Paul to the head of Lake Superior by a carrier who reached his destination about a week after the event.¹⁴

For fifteen years roads connecting the Mississippi River with the head of Lake Superior gave direct service to Superior and did much to keep it growing faster than Duluth. Dwellers on the Wisconsin side of the common harbor realized fully the importance of such a connection. Until 1868 Douglas County, Wisconsin, which included Superior, annually levied taxes for the maintenance of the road over the western route to St. Paul and financed work not only on the fifteen miles of the road lying within the county, but also on eighty-five miles in Minnesota.¹⁵ Such expenditures apparently ceased only when citizens of Douglas County became convinced that the first railroad between the Mississippi and Lake Superior would terminate, not on the Superior, but on the Duluth side of the harbor at the mouth of the St. Louis River.

The assistant to the chief engineer for the railroad rode a stage from St. Paul over the western route in 1868, presumably in the spring. He describes vividly the mud and rain and tells that he was four days in making the journey. A time table printed for that year indicates that the hundred-and-sixty-mile trip normally required but two and a half days, and that the stage fare was sixteen dollars. About a year later a traveler designated the western route, over which he journeyed from the rail head at Wyoming, as a

¹⁴ Manuscript by Richard E. Carey, in the possession of the St. Louis County Historical Society; Irving H. Hart, "The Old Savanna Portage," *ante*, 8: 117-139.

¹⁵ James Bardon, "Douglas County's History," in *Wisconsin Municipality*, 14: 1061 (July, 1914).

mud canal, explaining that the forest prevented it from drying between rains. Nevertheless, on the fourth morning out of St. Paul, his party approached Fond du Lac from a point beyond Twin Lakes. Winter conditions provided a much more comfortable passage over the route. Though travelers might suffer from cold, there were no mosquitoes, deer flies, or mud to make the journey unpleasant. The family of Judge Solon H. Clough removed from St. Paul to the head of the lakes in January, 1868, riding in a cutter behind two ponies, while two strong horses pulled an immense sleighload of household goods, and a shepherd dog trotted alongside. The trip required but four days.¹⁶

In the winter preceding the building of a railroad the stage fare from St. Paul to the hamlet at Minnesota Point was fifteen dollars. Some made the trip in two days and three nights, finishing the journey in sleighs over the bay from Superior. In March, 1869, the editor of a Duluth newspaper advised those going to Duluth from St. Paul to send their baggage by way of Lake Michigan, while they themselves should take the train north to Wyoming and walk from there. He implied that even if they paid the regular stage fare they would be required to walk much of the way. In May two former residents of Duluth hired a "two-horse conveyance" at St. Paul, drove to Twin Lakes in three and a half days, walked the seven miles to Fond du Lac, and continued by boat to Duluth. They chose this route from Twin Lakes in preference to traveling twenty-three miles through heavy clay and over thirty-two bridges to Superior, and then crossing the bay seven miles by ferry. In the spring of 1869 friends of the village of Duluth promised to arrange, before the summer ended, for a better boat

¹⁶ Interview with George G. Barnum, in *Duluth Herald*, April 10, 1933; J. Disturnell, comp., *The Great Lakes*, 210 (New York, 1863); J. T. Trowbridge, "Through the Woods to Lake Superior," in *Atlantic Monthly*, 25: 417 (April, 1870); Clara C. Lenroot, *Long, Long Ago*, 35 (n. p., 1929).

than the one then operating on the St. Louis River between that place and Fond du Lac.¹⁷

For some years Minnesota legislation had pointed toward making Duluth, rather than Superior, the terminus of the stage route from St. Paul. An act of 1858 provided for a survey from Twin Lakes, via Fond du Lac, through Portland, now included in the business section of Duluth. Four years later the legislature appropriated five hundred dollars for a winter road between Twin Lakes and Duluth, provided that the counties through which it passed would spend a like sum. An act of 1865 empowered St. Louis County to expend a sum not to exceed ten thousand dollars for opening, working, and repairing the road from Duluth to Twin Lakes. The route had been established as a post road in March, 1869, when St. Louis County was authorized to issue as much as eight thousand dollars in scrip to finish locating and surveying a state road which would intersect the military road in Carlton County.¹⁸

Throughout the summer of 1869 much effort went into finishing the independent road into Duluth from Twin Lakes. The St. Louis County commissioners, upon being strongly importuned, provided for the improvement of the road between Duluth and Oneota, where bridges had been so low and slopes on either side of them so steep that teams could draw but half a load over them. A short time later the route was selected along which to extend the road from Oneota to Fond du Lac. It was far enough from the St. Louis River to avoid the necessity of building long and expensive bridges across tributaries near their mouths, where they were widest, and to take advantage of the better natural drainage offered by a somewhat higher level. With the fourteen miles of road between Duluth and Fond du Lac

¹⁷ Woodbridge and Pardee, *Duluth*, 1: 252; *Duluth Minnesotian*, March 8, May 8, 1869.

¹⁸ *Special Laws*, 1858, p. 120-122; 1862, p. 305; 1865, p. 191; 1869, p. 324; United States, *Statutes at Large*, 15: 188-190.

built or arranged for, the commissioners expended approximately three hundred dollars to put into proper condition for stage travel the seven miles between Fond du Lac and Twin Lakes. Pending the completion of the north shore stage road, residents of Duluth planned to have the steamer "Keyes" call at Fond du Lac on stage days, and this made it much more convenient to go to Duluth than to Superior.¹⁹

Some passengers, however, still preferred to go to Superior. In the spring of 1870, a stage loaded with nine passengers, one of whom occupied the seat with the driver, traveled from St. Paul to Superior. The party included the president of a railroad which then was approaching the lake head, the vice president of a railroad soon to extend westward toward the Pacific, and two Congressmen — all bouncing about democratically among their fellow passengers as the stage progressed over corduroy or lurched in and out of chuck holes. As the stage entered the outskirts of Superior in the gathering dusk, its chronicler noted an owl on the ridgepole of a deserted house. To him the view seemed emblematic of the slump in the population of Superior, which was emphasized by contrast with the rapid growth of Duluth as the railroad from St. Paul approached its water front. Trains were running as far as Rush City late in July, 1869, and as the railroad neared the lake head the service on the stage route apparently degenerated. A Duluth editor described the road leading to Superior as the most damnable ever built in the universe, the overnight stopping place at Moose Lake as too abominable for human occupancy, and the quarters at Chengwatana as only a trifle more comfortable and but little cleaner.²⁰ The beginning of through railroad service in August, 1870, meant the abandonment of stage schedules, and for a time there was

¹⁹ *Duluth Minnesotian*, May 1, June 12, July 10, 1869.

²⁰ Charles C. Coffin, *The Seat of Empire*, 141-150 (Boston, 1870); *Duluth Minnesotian*, July 31, 1869.

but little road traffic of any kind over the full length of the route between the Mississippi and Lake Superior.

A St. Paul group interested in the Superior townsite and others living in the interior of Minnesota sponsored the first road to the head of Lake Superior. Its inception and use both show it to have been less a connection of the lake villages with the interior than an outlet to the lake for inland points. Perhaps Duluth had a greater share in the building of other roads between the head of the lake and the interior areas than in this instance. Even for the later roads, however, much of the motivating force came from people who did not live at the head of the lake, or who had not permanently located there. Western Lake Superior constituted, for many, but a station on the route to more inviting areas in the interior.

Lands in the upper Mississippi Valley had greater attractions for potential agriculturalists than those nearer the head of Lake Superior. Since emigrants could not always reach the upper river by boat, and no other cheap and speedy means of travel existed for their use, settlement near the upper Mississippi proceeded slowly. In 1857, after a road from the west end of Lake Superior to the upper Mississippi was built, government officials expected a large influx of immigrants to the Sauk Rapids land district by way of this road and the lake. The road diverged somewhat from a straight line, its length between Fond du Lac and Sauk Rapids measuring a hundred and twenty miles. An act of 1856 made territorial roads of the routes between St. Cloud and the head of Mille Lacs and between Mille Lacs and the head of Lake Superior, already "explored out." Later a memorial to Congress asked for a mail route with semiweekly service between St. Cloud and the lake head.²¹

In 1858 the Minnesota legislature appointed commissioners to mark a roadway between the Red River and some

²¹ Bond, *Minnesota*, 400; *Laws*, 1856, p. 136; 1861, p. 352.

eligible point on the Minnesota shore of Lake Superior. Three years later a memorial was sent to Congress requesting a weekly mail between Lake Superior and Georgetown, on the Red River, by way of Crow Wing. Settlers along the route had opened and continued to improve a direct line of road.²² In the winter of 1858-59 a resident of Superior built under contract the westernmost twenty miles of a road between the head of Lake Superior and Mille Lacs. Apparently he had made previous use of roads leading lakeward from the interior of Minnesota when he drove a herd of cattle from the vicinity of Anoka to Superior and shipped them to the Michigan mines. A herd of his cattle constituted the first consignment of livestock shipped east from the head of Lake Superior.²³

Residents of Superior financed the road that passed Mille Lacs in the hope of attracting another type of commerce. They expended great sums for clearing, grading, corduroying, and bridging a course of a hundred miles extending from a point north of Moose Lake, on the "military road," to Crow Wing on the Mississippi. They did this because the Hudson's Bay Company had agreed to establish a depot at the head of the lakes and to transport its goods through Superior instead of through St. Paul. Plans were made to provide a warehouse at Superior for the fur company, which was offered a substantial cash bonus. Though the road was available, the Hudson's Bay Company never used it to take furs to Lake Superior.²⁴

Another route that was considered in connection with road projects extended northwest from the head of Lake Superior. During the fifties a townsite promoter offered to take Indian supplies from Duluth at actual cost over a road to be laid out to the reservation above the Knife Falls of

²² *Special Laws*, 1858, p. 128; *Laws*, 1855, p. 111; 1856, p. 136, 350;

²³ *Upper Lake Region*, 32.

²⁴ Bardon, in *Wisconsin Municipality*, 14:1061; Woodbridge and Pardee, *Duluth*, 1:283.

the St. Louis. He thought that Indian payments, if made farther from Duluth, would result in greater benefit to the natives. If he actually built such a road, it failed of continuous use, for some years later agents made the Indian payment at Fond du Lac because no road existed over which to transport goods to the reservation. The agents did this in violation of the treaty of 1854, which designated the reservation as the place of payment, and the Indians had to transport the goods for themselves.²⁵

In 1858 commissioners were appointed "to locate, survey, and establish a State road" between Pokegama Falls, on the Mississippi River, and a point on the north shore near the western extremity of Lake Superior. In 1869 a Duluth newspaper urged the construction of a road over a similar, or possibly the same, route. It proposed building a road "from Duluth via the mouth of the Cloquet branch of the St. Louis River and thence along the St. Louis to the Floodwood branch, following which to its head the route would then strike directly across to the Mississippi at the Falls," where Grand Rapids now is located. Lake Superior, the editor argued, would serve Indian agents, traders, and lumbermen better than any route by way of Chicago. He contended that the savings to the federal government in transporting supplies to the Chippewa would pay for the road in a few years and that it would prove invaluable if it were ever needed in suppressing the savages.²⁶

The most famous of the early roads from Duluth to the interior extended north to Lake Vermilion, where gold was discovered in 1865. Eight prospectors, interested in Gold Island, left Superior for Lake Vermilion in September of that year, cutting a trail north from Duluth as they proceeded. Several routes to the area received legal sanction

²⁵ *Upper Lake Region*, 13; Newton H. Winchell, *The Aborigines of Minnesota*, 657 (St. Paul, 1911). A road running west from Duluth to the boundary of the reservation is shown on a map in A. T. Andreas, *Illustrated Historical Atlas of Minnesota*, 183 (Chicago, 1874).

²⁶ *Special Laws*, 1858, p. 116; *Duluth Minnesotian*, May 1, 1869.

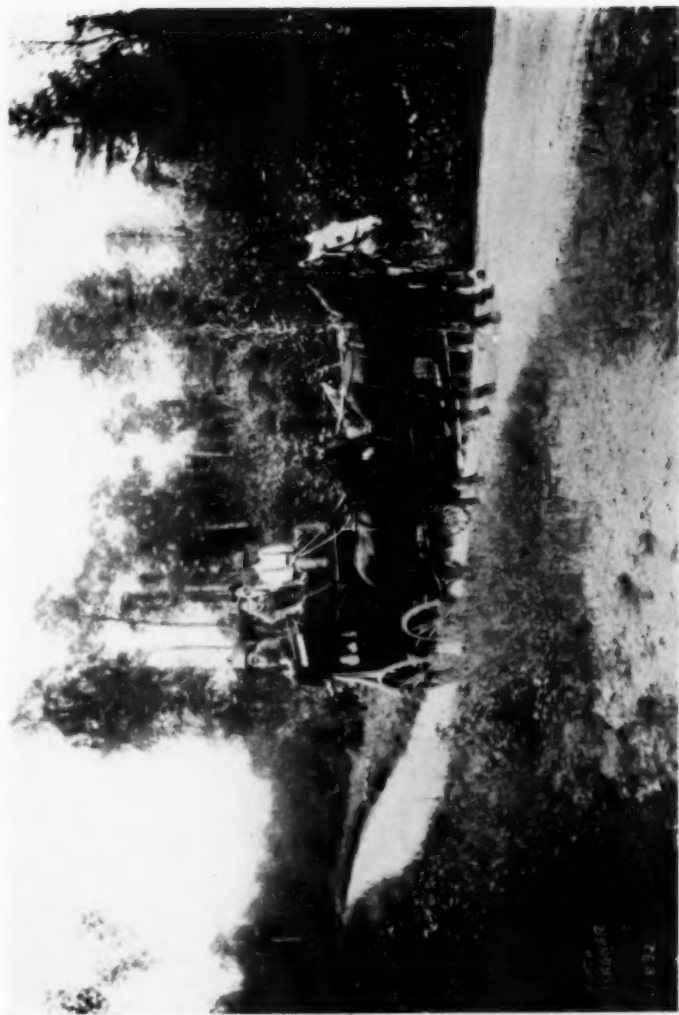
in 1866; the legislature authorized a toll road for stages from Beaver Bay, a road from Crow Wing, and a road from Twin Lakes that would connect with another from Duluth. A St. Paul company interested in mining gold widened the trail between Duluth and the gold area to road proportions in 1866. In 1868 and 1869 appropriations from the state totaling six thousand dollars resulted in a great improvement of the road.²⁷

From July to late October, 1869, the work progressed under federal appropriation. The government engineer at St. Paul ordered a Duluth contractor to use the road built in 1868 nearly in its entirety to the second crossing of the Vermilion River; to adopt from there the nearest practicable route to Nett Lake, some forty miles northwest of Lake Vermilion; and to survey the route, clear a minimum width of twelve feet, bridge streams, and improve swamp crossings for the use of wagons in all seasons. Senator Alexander Ramsey helped to procure a federal appropriation of ten thousand dollars for this road, ostensibly on the ground that the government needed it for making Indian payments at Nett Lake. A delegation of Bois Fort Indians from that area went to Duluth a few months after the road got under way to inquire about a deferred payment for that year.²⁸

Duluth merchants expected to develop, over the Nett Lake branch of the road, trade far more valuable than that associated with supplying Indians. Only forty miles intervened between the Nett Lake reservation and the Rainy River, from which place a short and easy route led to the Red River settlements. Canadians began to build a road

²⁷ Horace Johnson, *Gold Rush to the Vermilion and Rainy Lake Districts of Minnesota and Ontario in 1865 and 1894*, 11 (Duluth, 1926); *Special Laws*, 1866, p. 251, 253, 254; 1868, p. 446; William E. Culkin, "The Old Vermilion Trail," 8, 15; certified copy of a special law of February 23, 1869, appropriating a thousand dollars for work on the Vermilion road. The two latter items are manuscripts in the possession of the St. Louis County Historical Society; the law is a copy of the original in the secretary of state's office.

²⁸ *Duluth Minnesotian*, July 10, 17, October 2, 1869.



A STAGECOACH ON THE VERMILION ROAD, NORTH OF THE CLOQUET RIVER, 1892
[From a negative in the possession of Mr. L. P. Gallagher of Duluth. The first man to the left is Leonidas Merritt.]

that would connect the Red River with Lake Superior. They planned to construct a wagon route to the Rainy River, which would be connected along a ridge with the Nett Lake terminus of the Duluth road, thus completing an all-land, all-season road between Duluth and the Red River settlements.²⁰ An expedition sent from Toronto to Fort Garry in 1870 to quell the Riel rebellion used an old canoe and portage route over Canadian soil, "the passage of troops through the United States territory being of course out of the question."³⁰ Its commander may have preferred traveling over the route between Duluth and the Red River settlements, but by going through Canada, he and his party reached Fort Garry without violation of neutrality.

After the discovery of gold some fifty miles north of Lake Vermilion in 1893-94 an extension of the Vermilion road furnished a way to the gold fields. Gold seekers going from Duluth took a train to Tower, a steamer across Lake Vermilion, and a stage from the Vermilion River dam to Harding on Crane Lake, from which numerous gold areas were easily accessible. Because traders who took supplies to the gold camps over Lake Vermilion were handicapped by bad cracks in the ice in winter and by tedious transition periods in the spring and the fall, when both sledge and boat traffic were impossible, an eight-mile, all-season road skirting Lake Vermilion was built between Tower and a point near the Vermilion River dam. The project was financed by merchants at Tower and the railroad which terminated there.³¹

²⁰ *Duluth Minnesotian*, July 10, 17, 1869; Simon J. Dawson, *Report on the Line of Route between Lake Superior and the Red River Settlement*, 3 (Ottawa, 1868); 41 Congress, 2 session, *Senate Executive Documents*, no. 104, p. 34 (serial 1407); *Morning Call* (Duluth), January 4, 1871.

²¹ G. L. Huyshe, *The Red River Expedition*, 27 (London and New York, 1871); 42 Congress, 2 session, *House Miscellaneous Documents*, no. 150 (serial 1526).

³¹ "A Short Route to the New Gold-fields," in *Northwest Magazine*, vol. 15, no. 7, p. 37 (July, 1897); Johnson, *Gold Rush*, 17, 23.

The legislature of 1857 incorporated a company to build a plank road between the lighthouse reserve on Minnesota Point at Duluth and the mouth of the Knife River on the north shore of Lake Superior. The next year several residents of the head-of-the-lakes area received commissions to lay out a road through "Fond du Lac, Oneota, Portland, Clifton, Montezuma, Buchanan, Burlington, to Beaver Bay, in Lake County." The expenses were to be met by the counties along the route and supervisors of roads of the several precincts were empowered immediately to open the route as a cartway.³² St. Louis County built the first county road out of Duluth when it began construction of the road along the north shore of Lake Superior. Although the road was authorized in 1858, boats were still the usual means used in reaching Buchanan and other places along the north shore in 1861. Presumably the north shore road did not yet extend into Lake County in 1873, when the state appropriated fifteen hundred dollars to aid Lake and St. Louis counties in building a wagon road from Duluth to the Pigeon River.³³ On the south shore a stage line operated at an early date between the lake head and Ashland, with a mid-way station on the Brule River.³⁴

The early road pattern of the northeast closely resembled that of the present in its essential characteristics. In 1927 Superior dedicated a tablet marking the lake terminus of the famous "military road." A modern road from the vicinity leads to the Twin Cities on the Mississippi by way of Taylor's Falls on the St. Croix, approximately along the route of the early winter road. A better and more frequently used road lies altogether in Minnesota, following roughly the route of the "western" stage road, except that it terminates in Duluth rather than in Superior. This mod-

³² *Laws*, extra session, 1857, p. 195-197; *Special Laws*, 1858, p. 120-122.

³³ Van Brunt, *Duluth*, 1: 149; *Special Laws*, 1873, p. 314.

³⁴ Harry Ashton, "Traditions of the Pioneer Days," in *Superior Telegram*, July 23, 1910; *Morning Call*, January 17, 1871.

ern successor of the "military road," which is designated as United States Highway Number 61, carries the heaviest traffic of all the lines focusing at the head of Lake Superior.³⁵ Several railway lines assist the first, which follows closely the western stage route, in carrying freight and passengers, and until recently an air line transported passengers and mail between Duluth and Superior and the Twin Cities.

The present north shore road extends to the international boundary and its Canadian extension continues to the Nipigon River. On the south shore, United States Highway Number 2 leads through Brule to Ashland, Wisconsin. The Vermilion road, designated in part as county highway number 4, still leads to Vermilion Lake. In Minnesota, highway number 2 follows essentially the route recommended from Duluth to Pokegama Falls. Between it and the Vermilion road, United States Highway Number 53 branches off some twenty miles from Duluth as the main route to the Mesabi Range, a place to which no one planned roads in the sixties. The ancient route westward parallels United States Highway Number 210, which takes off southwest of Duluth for Brainerd, slightly north of Crow Wing on the Mississippi; and well to the south of Mille Lacs, Minnesota Highway Number 23 reaches the Mississippi at St. Cloud, just south of, and across the river from, Sauk Rapids.

GEORGE H. PRIMMER

STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
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³⁵ *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, 11: 355-357 (March, 1928); Minnesota Commissioner of Highways, *Biennial Reports*, 1929-30, p. 114.

THE STATE HISTORICAL CONVENTION OF 1935

The historic backgrounds of the Minnesota Valley from Traverse des Sioux to Lac qui Parle were exploited by the Minnesota Historical Society in its thirteenth state historical convention and summer tour, which took place from June 13 to 15. As a guide for those who traveled under the auspices of the society westward almost to the Dakota boundary and thence northeastward to Kandiyohi and McLeod counties on the return trip to the Twin Cities, a multigraphed sheet presenting "Glimpses of the History of the Route" was prepared. The tour began shortly after noon on Thursday, June 13, when a chartered bus carrying about twenty-five members and friends of the society left the Historical Building in St. Paul. At 2:00 P. M., at Shakopee, some half dozen private cars joined the tour; and by 3:45 P. M. about a hundred tourists had assembled at Traverse des Sioux State Park. There, on a site well known during the fur-trade era and famed as the place at which an important Sioux treaty was negotiated in 1851, the first session of the convention was held.

Mr. Henry N. Benson of St. Peter, president of the Nicollet County Historical Society, who presided, welcomed the visitors and then called upon Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum and archaeologist for the Minnesota Historical Society, for a paper on Louis Provençalle, a French-Canadian trader who had charge of a post at Traverse des Sioux from the middle twenties until his death in 1850. Mr. Babcock's account of the career of this picturesque frontiersman will appear in a future issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY. The story of "Old Traverse des Sioux" was reviewed by the next speaker, Dr. Conrad Peterson, professor of history in Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter.

He recalled explorers, such as Le Sueur and Carver, who visited the Minnesota Valley and he told of the Indian life that centered at the Traverse. At the conclusion of this talk, Mr. Benson introduced to the audience members of the families of two missionaries who ministered to the Minnesota Sioux—Mrs. Thomas L. Riggs of Oahe, South Dakota, a daughter-in-law of Stephen R. Riggs, and the Reverend and Mrs. Jesse P. Williamson and Mrs. Winifred W. Barton, grandchildren of Dr. Thomas S. Williamson. Colonel J. A. Lundeen, who received one of the earliest appointments to West Point from Minnesota, was called upon and made some remarks about frontier life. The meeting was then adjourned, and the tourists proceeded to St. Peter, driving past the cemetery in which Governor John A. Johnson is buried and through the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College. A garden party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Benson served as a delightful interlude in the day's program.

Following an informal dinner at the Hotel Nicollet, the evening session was convened in the Nicollet County Courthouse with Mr. William W. Cutler of St. Paul, president of the Minnesota Historical Society, presiding. Mr. Benson, the first speaker, told of local historical activity in Nicollet County and the work of the county historical society, which, he pointed out, grew out of an old settlers' association. "Changing Frontiers of the American West" was the subject chosen by the second speaker, Dr. Louis Pelzer, professor of history in the University of Iowa and president of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. He described the "succession of frontiers" that were made by explorers, traders, missionaries, settlers, soldiers, miners, and boatmen; and he dwelt particularly upon the military frontier of the thirties and forties that "was made up of a long chain of forts and posts, from Fort Snelling on the north to Baton Rouge to the south." The final speaker of the session, Miss Mary Ellen Lewis of Lewisville, described a journey by

covered wagon through southern Minnesota in 1873, as recorded in a dairy kept by Mrs. Jane Grout.

Members of the tour left St. Peter early on Friday morning, June 14, for between that place and Granite Falls they were scheduled to visit Fort Ridgely and Wood Lake, where important battles in the Sioux War of 1862 were fought, and the sites of the lower and upper Sioux agencies on the Minnesota River and of the mission stations near the upper agency where Dr. Thomas S. Williamson and Stephen R. Riggs were stationed before the outbreak of 1862. At Fort Ridgely, Mrs. E. R. Sheire, editor of the *Fairfax Standard*, sketched the history of the fort and distributed among members of the audience an illustrated leaflet on the same subject. A reception committee consisting of three members of the Granite Falls Commercial Club—Mr. H. S. Lampman, Mr. Jay L. Putnam, and Mr. C. R. Barthelemy—met the tourists just before they reached Wood Lake, now a state park, where they inspected a monument marking the site of the battle and listened to Mr. Charles Stees of St. Paul, a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, read extracts from an interesting and valuable unpublished diary kept by his uncle, Captain Charles J. Stees, who participated in the conflict. The tourists reached the Granite Falls Congregational Church for a luncheon at 12:30 P.M. It was followed by a brief session, with Mr. Edward C. Gale of Minneapolis, vice president of the Minnesota Historical Society, presiding; Mr. Putnam, who is the editor of the *Granite Falls Tribune*, welcoming the visitors; Mr. Lampman outlining the "Historic Backgrounds of the Granite Falls Region"; and Mr. Fred W. Johnson of New Ulm, president of the Brown County Historical Society, reviewing the story of the Sioux reservation in the Minnesota Valley and of the agencies at the mouths of the Redwood and Yellow Medicine rivers.

The climax of the tour was reached on the afternoon of June 14 at Chippewa-Lac qui Parle Mission State Park,

where, in an outdoor amphitheater, with Dr. Lester B. Shippee, professor of history in the University of Minnesota, presiding, a session was held to commemorate the centennial of the founding by Dr. Thomas S. Williamson and Alexander Huggins of the Lac qui Parle mission. More than a thousand people heard Dr. Charles M. Gates, acting curator of manuscripts on the staff of the state historical society, relate the story of the mission, which was established on July 9, 1835, under the auspices of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and which was continued for two decades as a center for mission work among the Minnesota Sioux. His paper appeared in full in the June issue of this magazine. The Indian tribe that the Lac qui Parle missionaries served was represented by the Reverend Philip Frazier, who is superintendent of Congregational mission work at Fort Pierre, South Dakota. He spoke on "Gospel for the Modern Sioux," presenting the story of the contact of red men and white from the Indian's point of view. The relations of traders, soldiers, and missionaries with the Sioux were described by the speaker, who showed how churches and schools developed after 1862. At the conclusion of his address, he introduced the Reverend Reuben Kitto, a Congregational missionary at Thunder Butte, South Dakota, who greeted the audience in his native Dakota tongue. A group of vocal selections by the Montevideo Choral Club was another feature of this program.¹

Following a dinner at the Montevideo Congregational Church, about three hundred people gathered in the Mon-

¹ The papers presented by Mr. Gates and Mr. Frazier appear in full in the "Lac qui Parle Centennial Edition" of the *Montevideo News*, published on July 5, and that by Mr. Gates is also published in the *Montevideo American* of the same date. A celebration sponsored by the Congregational and Presbyterian churches was held at Lac qui Parle on July 7, and another arranged by the Lac qui Parle Indian Mission Centennial Commission created by the 1935 legislature was staged on July 9. On the latter date the Minnesota Historical Society was represented by Mr. Babcock, who spoke on "Cross and Plough: The Missionary as a Civilizer." An account of these celebrations will appear in the December issue of this magazine.

tevideo Armory to listen to a concert by the local municipal band and to a series of talks. Mr. Babcock presided, calling first upon Mr. C. E. Mills of Montevideo for a talk on "Early Days in Lac qui Parle County." He was followed by Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, who took as his subject "Conserving Minnesota's Past." The state society "for a dozen years," he said, "has been laying particular stress upon the significance of local history, and has been exploiting the backgrounds of various regions in its annual summer tours" and in the encouragement of the county historical society movement. He expressed the hope that in the near future active historical societies would exist in Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, and Yellow Medicine counties. Mr. Ludwig I. Roe, editor of the *Montevideo News*, concluded the session with a talk on the backgrounds of Chippewa County. He remarked upon the fact that Minnesota is made up of sections with differing characteristics, and he stressed the importance of the study of local and regional history and of recent history. His ideas are expanded in an editorial in his newspaper for June 14 entitled "Now Is History," in which he points out that "Organized interest can save the every-day records and articles that make it possible for the trained historian to construct an accurate picture. This may be through a county historical society, or by community groups."

Dr. Blegen presided at the opening session of the third day of the convention, which was held jointly with the Kandiyohi County Old Settlers Association at the fair grounds at Willmar. "Hunting in Minnesota in the Seventies" was the subject chosen by the first speaker, Miss Mary Wheelhouse, editorial assistant on the staff of the historical society, whose paper appears elsewhere in this issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY. "Local History Work in Kandiyohi County" was discussed briefly by Senator Victor E. Lawson, who told of the organization of the old settlers association in 1897 and of the building of its log cabin, in which the

session was held, and by Dr. A. F. Branton, who described the historical work that is being conducted under the auspices of the American Legion. Following this talk, Dr. Blegen introduced to the audience former Governor Samuel R. Van Sant of Minneapolis, who spoke briefly. An interesting paper entitled "Chippewa Falls, a Pre-Railroad Business Center," by Barr Moses, editor of the *Springfield* [Ohio] *Sun*, was then read, in the absence of the author, by Mr. Babcock. It told the story of a community on the Chippewa River, where in 1870 three Canadians, including Mr. Moses' father, established a mill. Chippewa Falls enjoyed a brief period of prosperity, and "at times during the busy season the mill ran day and night." By 1883, however, according to Mr. Moses, "the lack of rail facilities and competition of large Minneapolis mills had definitely ended the business prosperity of the place forever." The chairman, following the paper, stated that it was a part of an unpublished book giving a full-length picture of a Minnesota frontier community. He pointed out that too often pioneer reminiscences are in the form of fragments dealing with episodes and that there is need of comprehensive narratives such as that prepared by Mr. Moses. Dr. Blegen then called upon Senator Lawson to introduce Mr. Andrew Larson of Willmar, a Minnesota pioneer and Civil War veteran, who responded with a greeting to the audience. At the conclusion of the session, the visitors repaired to the local Presbyterian Church, where luncheon was served and where the minister, the Reverend W. L. Cain, gave a short address on the pioneer Presbyterian church.

A committee of the Kandiyohi County Old Settlers Association, which met the tourists as they entered the county in the morning, now took charge of the historical pilgrimage for its progress from Willmar to Rosendale, where it entered Meeker County. A special printed program distributed among the tourists included sketches of points of historical interest along the route, and these in turn had

been marked with numbered "standards." Among the places thus designated were the site in the beautiful Kandiyohi lakes region proposed for the Minnesota capital in bills introduced in the legislatures of 1861, 1869, and 1872, and the spot where Captain John S. Cady was killed by an Indian in 1863.

From the Kandiyohi County boundary the historical tourists proceeded to Glencoe, where they witnessed an open-air pageant of pioneer life in McLeod County staged by the historical societies of Glencoe and Hutchinson. Refreshments were first served in the public school building and then the visitors proceeded to a grandstand, where they were welcomed in a talk by Mr. S. S. Beach of Hutchinson, to which President Cutler responded. Miss Helen M. Baker of Brownton then spoke briefly on pioneer education. Following this, the pageant was presented before an audience of approximately fifteen hundred people. In the various episodes, pioneer activities, such as the building of a log cabin and the harvesting of crops with primitive implements, were illustrated; frontier events, such as the arrival of the first settlers in covered wagons and the coming of members of the Hutchinson family, were re-enacted; and scenes suggesting various special aspects of the history of the region, such as the development of a co-operative creamery and the social life of a Bohemian settlement, were presented.

As this colorful pageant drew to a close, a mounted scout galloped by in a cloud of dust, shouting a shrill warning that the Indians were coming and that everyone must make haste and depart. The tourists and audience took the courier at his word, and so the peripatetic convention ended.² Thudding hoofs gave way to purring motors as the chartered bus and private cars of the tour headed, late Saturday afternoon, June 15, for the Twin Cities.

² Another account of the convention and tour is contributed by Gertrude Gove to the *Windom Reporter*, where it appears in two installments on June 21 and 28.

A GROUP OF MINNESOTA LOWLAND MOUNDS

Out on the lowland meadows, valley trains, outwash plains, and along the drainage channels of the late Wisconsin ice sheet lie approximately two thousand mounds, all within a radius of about ten miles from Northfield. This means that the region contains about one-fifth as many mounds as all the rest of Minnesota put together—truly, a respectable number. In point of size, however, these mounds are by no means so imposing as are many of the earthworks found in Ohio, Mexico, or even within the confines of our own state. Nevertheless they form an integral part not only of the archaeological remains of Minnesota, but also of America. The grand scheme or panoramic picture of prehistoric America will not be complete unless these mounds have been accorded the proper place to which they are rightly entitled. The true solution of the problem presented by them may reveal a more interesting chapter than is at present supposed. And, inasmuch as many are doomed to the same destruction that already has overtaken many others as the result of clearing, drainage, dust storms, and agricultural operations, the following is offered in the hope that it may assist competent investigators in appraising correctly the meaning of these prehistoric remains and in solving the mystery that now surrounds them.

In shape and outward appearance the mounds are of the typical midwestern kind—low, circular, lenticular, from one to three feet high, and from twenty to fifty feet in diameter. A few measure sixty feet across, and some are longer than they are broad. They occur in scattered groups of many, or of a few, mounds. Single specimens are not uncommon. Along the outwash flats from Stanton to Dennison and beyond there were 575 mounds, along the Cannon

River between Northfield and Dundas there are 57, at Dundas and a mile beyond there are over 40, a mile farther south is a group of 90, and on five adjoining sections in Greenvale and Waterford townships there are 602. West of this wide area decreasingly smaller groups occur at various intervals along the drainage channels that descend from the higher morainic tracts. Manifestly such large numbers of archaeological remains raise the question: "Who built these mounds, when were they built, and why?"

As possible factors leading to the distribution and location of mounds may be mentioned the water courses, the big open flats with abundant gifts of nature, and the many beaver dams, which bespeak a numerous beaver population that may have lured the builders of the mounds into these parts. No long earthen walls, no very high mounds, no village sites with numerous relics have been found. The only structures of an apparently defensive kind are more than seventy small embankments with pits flanking both sides, arranged in roughly parallel rows in arc-like formation over an area of about three acres. They vary in height from one and a half to two feet, and in length from four to five feet. Two or three are seven to eight feet long. One pit measures eighteen feet in length. As the walls all face in a southerly direction, it appears that an attack was ward off in that direction. The west and north sides of the place were protected by steep slopes bordering a creek. Until recently the area was forested. Excavations into some of the embankments and inquiry among people failed to give any further information. If these works prove to be of the defensive kind, it may be questioned whether they indicate a sporadic struggle between very ancient tribes or warfare between Sioux and Iowa for the possession of these domains. These earthworks are on Mr. Stanley Ripple's farm in Bridgewater Township.

The mounds were first observed by the writer in 1887 or 1888. From passing trains one can easily see some of

them, but, owing to the fact that they are far less striking in appearance than the wonderful effigy mounds previously admired in Wisconsin, they did not seem to merit much attention. From 1904 to 1908, however, a better understanding of the significance of mounds led to a systematic search and tabulation of over two thousand in this region. Although ponds, sloughs, small lakes, rank growths of tall weeds and sedges, thickets, and fringing forests made exploration difficult, the region doubtless had much the same appearance as when the mounds were erected. The so-called "improvements" made by the white man have changed the country to such an extent that some statements made hitherto about the mounds will, in the future, appear untrue.

The attention of Jacob V. Brower was repeatedly called to these mounds with the hope that, after he had finished his work on the Red Wing area, he would make a detailed study also of this region. When the writer examined the newly discovered Fort Sweney at Welch, Brower's attention was called to the subject, and he wrote that he "made a hasty trip to Castle Rock and saw fifty mounds." Notice the word "mounds." This highly experienced field-worker classified these tumuli as mounds. Unfortunately his death in 1905 put an end to further work. His successor, the well-known geologist N. H. Winchell, was busy for several years editing the *Aborigines of Minnesota* (St. Paul, 1911), but he did spend several days examining the mounds, and he published a map showing their distribution in the *Aborigines* (p. 129). His opinion there recorded is: "These earthworks cannot be excluded from the category of 'Indian mounds.' . . . Their numbers are so startling, and their having not been observed by any other archæologist is so remarkable, that it seemed necessary to make some examination before incorporating them into this report." These plans, however, were not carried out. Since the mounds occurred in such unheard-of places, the perplexing question whether they had really been made by man or by some other

agency was at first raised. In 1915 Dr. Warren Upham learned that similar mounds had been observed by Joseph B. Thoburn, later curator of the Oklahoma Historical Society. On July 11, 1916, Dr. Upham wrote: "Through several weeks of last year I had much correspondence with him [*Thoburn*] on this subject. . . . These unusual and very numerous 'lowland mounds,' hitherto not very generally known . . . I now believe to be made by primitive people." When Mr. Frank Leverett, an outstanding geologist, was determining and mapping the extent of glacial drift deposits in this region, the writer made various trips with him to Dennison, Faribault, Hampton, Lakeville, and other places, and called his attention to the mounds, but never once did he pay the slightest attention to them as glacial features. This opinion from so eminent a glaciologist makes further arguments unnecessary. Some of the mounds even lie outside of the area that was either covered by the ice or reached by its outwash waters. Therefore, they are post-glacial formations. That four men, each an authority in his line, arrived along different routes at the respective conclusions cited, warrants the inference that these tumuli are not due to glacial action, but to human agency.

In 1916, at the request of the Minnesota Historical Society that further explorations be made, twenty-six mounds were excavated by the writer. The only indication of human agency was a flaked stone, found about two feet beneath the top of a mound. Additional excavations in 1934 brought to light a flaked but unpolished club. It lay at the base level of a mound. On April 14, 1934, Irwin F. Smith, city engineer of Faribault, said that he had excavated six mounds in none of which artifacts were discovered. In excavating more than forty mounds, only two relics have been found. The almost total absence of relics is, perhaps, the most distressing feature about the excavation of these mounds. It precludes all comparison with cultural products of identified regions. Naturally one would think:

"Many mounds, many people. Many people, at least a fair number, if not many relics." However, repeated examinations of miles of the mound-dotted area, even under the most favorable conditions for field work, revealed only two specimens—a scraper and an arrow. True it is that finds of arrowheads, two pestles, two catlinite pipes, a big stone hoe, and a few other things have been made in this region. They occurred, however, in widely separated areas and not in association with mounds; thus they may easily represent articles that were lost by hunting parties that roamed over the land and camped temporarily in various localities long after the mounds had been built. Worst of all, not a single piece of pottery of any kind has been recovered either from mound or field. This makes it appear that the builders of the mounds were not acquainted with the art of making pottery. Hence the mounds do not appear to be of Siouan origin, and they therefore cannot be linked with the Red Wing groups. For years it was believed that when the area was plowed over, plenty of Siouan pottery would show up. But, no such Rosetta relic appeared. Hence, a Siouan relationship does not seem to fit the problem of these mounds. The finding of hundreds of Siouan mounds without a trace of pottery looks like a paradox. Nevertheless, there may be undiscovered relics present. The silent but unexcavated mound does not tell what is inside. A fortunate find may some day change the views now held. One good find of the right kind reveals much.

Perhaps the condition of these mounds can be best explained by postulating a greater age for the mounds than that of Siouan occupancy. Dr. Upham suggested that the mounds were constructed so long ago—possibly by glacial man, who used implements of bone—that all vestiges of human occupancy, such as charcoal, ashes, and skeletal remains, had been removed by decay. Professor Thoburn suggests that the mounds probably are of the "domiciliary" type that he discovered in Oklahoma. He was very successful in

finding pottery, implements, fireplaces, postholes, and even skeletal remains in collapsed earthen huts. Such huts were made by placing posts in the ground, roofing them over with timber, and then covering all with turf or mud. When the inhabitants left, they took their possessions with them. When the huts collapsed, they formed the mounds. Hence, mounds without relics. While proof for such an explanation is lacking in this region, the absence of relics and the nature of the mounds themselves favor the earthen lodge explanation. The Iowa are known to have lived in this region before the arrival of the Sioux, they built such huts elsewhere, and they may have built similar ones here; or some tribe that preceded the Iowa may have built them. William W. Warren, in his "History of the Ojibways," in *Minnesota Historical Collections*, 5:160-180, frequently mentions "earth wigwams." He writes: "The villages consisted mostly of earthen wigwams." "The Dakotas took refuge in their earthen lodges." "The Gros Ventres stated that their fathers lived in earthen wigwams." "The remains of their earthen wigwams are still plainly seen in great numbers." "The numerous earthen mounds . . . on the upper Mississippi . . . are safely considered as the remains of earthen lodges of these former occupants." "Nearly all the tribes of the red man who lived in an open prairie country . . . were accustomed to live in earthen wigwams." Brower may have struck such mounds farther north in Minnesota, for he notes that "The very old mounds have no recognizable remains." All such considerations create a suspicion that the Northfield mounds were built long ago by a people who did not make pottery and who used weapons of a perishable nature.

If these suggestions prove to be a stepping stone to the identification of the builders of these mounds, our efforts will not have been in vain.

EDWARD W. SCHMIDT

NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA

SOME SOURCES FOR NORTHWEST HISTORY

HOME MISSIONARY RECORDS

Few historians and research students in the field of Northwest history realize that a wealth of historical information lies hidden in the archives of the American Home Missionary Society. This large body of records, which is preserved in the library of the Chicago Theological Seminary, is arranged according to states. The Minnesota Historical Society has copied by means of filmstrips about ten thousand pages of letters and reports relating to Minnesota and dating from 1849 to 1868. A survey of the Minnesota materials reveals that information about various phases of social and economic life in the Northwest is to be found in these documents.

The records of a home missionary society are chiefly important for a study of the religious history of a particular state. They show how churches sprang up in a frontier region, how small groups of Congregationalists and Presbyterians in new communities here and there organized into congregations and applied to the society for financial aid. The congregations pledged a small sum toward the salary of a pastor and asked the society to pay the remaining amount; but even so salaries were meager enough. The pastor at Stillwater in 1850, Joseph C. Whitney, received a hundred and seventy-five dollars a quarter. During the hard times following the panic of 1857 some pastors received only five hundred dollars a year. After a pastor was called to a congregation, he was not content to serve only his own little parish, but he was alert and eager to minister to new, outlying settlements. Whitney walked seven miles to Willow River and four miles to Marine Mills instead of hiring a horse, which would have cost two or

three dollars. Although Gideon H. Pond was stationed at Oak Grove, he preached at Minneapolis, ten miles away, at Bloomington, twelve miles away, at Kaposia, five miles away, and at a private dwelling, four and a quarter miles from his home.¹

Stories of congregations that worshipped in homes, public halls, or even storerooms, and of their struggles to build their own churches are also told in the records. The pastors discuss in their letters the spiritual attitude and progress of their people; and in their yearly statistical reports they give the number of church members, Sunday school scholars, conversions, losses in membership, and the amounts of contributions. Although the churches supported by the American Home Missionary Society in Minnesota were mainly Congregational, the letters and reports contain references to the activities of other denominations and indications of a certain rivalry between them. In one church at Excelsior, the congregation was composed of Congregationalists, Methodists, and Presbyterians, and it adopted articles of faith which were subscribed to by the members before it applied to the missionary society for aid.² The society's superintendent for Minnesota, Richard Hall, traveled about the state and reported on conditions in various congregations, offering suggestions on their need for aid, on any difficulties they might have with their pastors, and on the advisability of establishing new congregations. The extent of home missionary work in Minnesota, the dependence of the frontier congregations on the society and eastern churches, and the relations between congregations and pastors have not been fully investigated.

These records throw considerable light on the story of the settlement and development of Minnesota. They indi-

¹ Joseph C. Whitney, January 4 and April 4, 1850; application from the Oak Grove church, December 5, 1853. The documents cited are addressed to the executive committee or to a single officer of the American Home Missionary Society.

² Charles Galpin, November 26, 1853.

cate the order and the period in which towns were settled and they are rich in information on the growth of villages and their population. For example, the first home missionary in Minnesota, the Reverend Edward D. Neill, wrote from St. Paul on April 30, 1849, that "since last fall the buildings have trebled and the population doubled." From Greenville in Wabasha County the report came that the first settlement was made in May, 1855, and that by August, 1856, most of the claims were taken and between five and eight hundred people were settled in the township. The dates of incorporation of many towns are given in the reports, together with accounts of the number and kinds of buildings erected. At Point Douglas in December, 1850, Richard Hall found a mill, ten houses, a store, a tavern, and a post office, and he saw the same number of houses on the Wisconsin side of the St. Croix River.³ St. Anthony, Stillwater, and a place called Decorri in Benton County were among the early settlements described in the missionary letters.

Many references to the sources of Minnesota's population may be discovered in the home mission documents. Neill gives lists of the previous residences of the members of his congregations at St. Paul and St. Anthony and of the states from which members of the legislature of 1849 had emigrated. Charles Secombe, a missionary stationed at St. Anthony in November, 1850, mentions the fact that an agent had arrived to select a location for a colony of Pennsylvanians who planned to emigrate the next spring. A committee from a church at Excelsior reports that only twenty members of a colony organized in New York as the Excelsior Pioneer Association came to Minnesota, but that more were expected.⁴

The missionaries often discussed the economic situation

³ Edward D. Neill, April 30, 1849; Congregational church of Greenville, August 15, 1856; Richard Hall, December 6, 1850.

⁴ Neill, September 12, 1849; Charles Secombe, November 2, 1850; Congregational church of Excelsior, November 26, 1853.

in their letters, since this naturally affected them acutely. They were careful to lay specific facts before the society, emphasizing their need for financial assistance. Many letters contain mentions of prices such as these: wood, two to three dollars a cord; potatoes, a dollar a bushel; flour, six and a half dollars a barrel; meats, eight to fifteen cents a pound; eggs, twenty to forty cents a dozen; and butter, thirty to forty cents a pound. The panic of 1857 and its consequences receive a good deal of attention. In February, 1858, Sherman Hall, missionary at Sauk Rapids, mentioned the lack of business, the number of unemployed, and the scarcity of money, but he stated with the optimism of the frontier: "There is a kind of general understanding that it is best for everyone to remain content as he is for the present, living on what he has got, and wait patiently for better times." Better times were slow in coming. A letter dated October 12, 1859, reads:

The time for Minnesota's deliverance is not yet. The lamentable condition of her banks, the bankruptcy of her Rail Roads, the murderous effect of her *three* and *five* per cent money system, together with the enormous taxes under which she now groans, and is destined to groan for a long time to come are dark spots upon the escutshun of her present history, while they enshroud her future in a perverted and still deeper gloom.⁵

As a rule the missionaries were not a complaining lot, but they gave frank descriptions of the hardships and trials of life on the frontier. George Spaulding, who was stationed at Marine in 1858, constructed his own bedsteads, tables, and chairs. He had a borrowed stove in his living room and only one threadbare carpet in the house. In many cases a pastor built practically his entire house himself. At Glenwood the parsonage had neither doors, windows, floors, nor ceilings. Only one room was plastered; in that the walls froze and, during a thaw, particles of plaster fell on and

⁵ Whitney, April 22, 1850; Sherman Hall, February 3, 1858; Benjamin F. Haviland, October 12, 1859.

into everything, including the food on the table.⁶ Boxes of clothing sent from the East were a great boon to the missionaries, whose letters often report to the society urgent needs and acknowledge gifts. Charles Secome wrote that the coat and vest he wore for public appearances were threadbare and ragged, and added that he had been obliged to reduce his winter's stock of provisions. Other phases of pioneer life also are touched upon in the letters, such as the danger from marauding Indians, the difficulties of travel over poor roads that lacked bridges, and the destruction of crops by grasshoppers. A good harvest is always noted. Farmers often realized but a small profit; the price of wheat in the summer of 1861 was so low that it scarcely repaid the expense of sowing and reaping.⁷

Social activities on the frontier, such as a Thanksgiving festival and a Fourth of July celebration for the benefit of a church, are chronicled in the correspondence of religious workers. As early as February 23, 1850, reference is made to lyceum lectures and a library association in St. Paul. In later years similar activities are recorded in other towns. In 1858 a missionary working in Glencoe reported the existence of a lyceum, a writing school, and a singing school.⁸ A meeting of a territorial temperance convention was reported on January 15, 1853. As temperance societies were organized, they were noted in the letters. The liquor traffic with the Indians was condemned. The hard times following the panic of 1857 were blessed for having closed many whiskey shops.⁹

Educational history also may be studied in the missionary documents. A Sabbath school was founded in 1849 at St. Anthony Falls by a teacher who was sent out by an eastern

⁶ George Spaulding, February 11, 1858; Alfred C. Lathrop, December 1, 1861.

⁷ Secombe, November 11, 1852; H. Doane, July 1, 1861.

⁸ Neill, February 23, 1850; J. J. Hill, February 6, 1858.

⁹ Neill, January 15, 1853; L. Armsby, January 28, 1858.

society for the promotion of national education. At Belle Prairie efforts were made to establish Mrs. Frederic Ayer's school for Indians and half-breeds on a permanent basis, to enlarge its operations, and to build a boarding school. The beginning of a female seminary at Lake City is mentioned in a letter of March 2, 1857. A missionary at Red Wing reported that eighty students attended Hamline University during the winter term of 1856-57, which closed with a public examination.¹⁰

Political and current events were not neglected by the missionaries. Mention is made of such topics as the Congressional bill to organize the territory of Minnesota; the Indian treaties proposed in 1850; efforts to admit Minnesota as a state with a constitution permitting slavery; the beginning, suspension, and extension of railroads; the hasty and excited mustering of troops at the outbreak of the Civil War; and the hysteria that followed the Sioux War of 1862.

The home missionaries in Minnesota were keenly aware of the fact that they were watching a frontier develop into a great commonwealth. In addition to recording the religious progress of the region, they commented on the growth of settlements and population, on economic conditions, on social events, and on political questions.

GERTRUDE W. ACKERMANN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

¹⁰ Neill, July 19, 1849; E. Newton, January 4, 1856; DeWitt Sterry, March 2, 1857; Joseph W. Hancock, April 1, 1857.

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

FINNISH FOLK SONGS IN MINNESOTA

The Finnish people who came to Minnesota brought with them many old-country customs. They had a poetic language, a fondness for ancient things, legends, proverbs, folk poetry, and music. A good deal of this feeling has survived to the present time among the Finnish settlements of Minnesota, and the folk songs, consequently, are many and are in everyday use. Part of this survival may be due to the background, which in its lakes, rivers, and forests so resembles Finland. If you look at a picture in a Finnish magazine showing a view of lakes and pine woods in summer, you might think it a photograph taken in the Superior National Forest, even to the look of the rocks along the lake shores. Fir trees, birches, aspen, and the enchanted mountain ash of Finnish legend belong to both backgrounds; and these trees, the cold blue lakes, and the wild rushing rivers appear in the words of many a Finnish song. Cabins are often mentioned, and a log cabin is characteristic of the Finnish-American homestead of the older type. Even the people of the range, who build frame houses of no especial character, are almost sure to have a summer cabin on a lake, and a log-built *sauna* or steam bath, that important and delightful part of Finnish-American life, will stand beside the shore and will be heated three or four times a week. On the homestead, the *sauna* may be a very old house, although the other houses have been replaced, and it is always a picturesque little building, with a low roof and a rock fireplace. The farmhouse itself, if not of logs, may be old-country in appearance, painted the traditional dark red, if it stands near a lake, and given to outside galleries. The luck-bringing mountain ash is planted beside the door, and

on Midsummer Day the house is trimmed, inside and out, with birch branches.

In this sort of setting, but with no additional touch of color or picturesqueness in costume—for some unknown reason, no Finnish costumes have survived, even among the old women—you will hear songs of unusual musical quality, most of them very old, many of them strangely beautiful. The old ballads, love songs, and laments were originally sung to the accompaniment of the harp, the triangular Finnish instrument called a *kantele*, which has become so rare and hard to find among the Finnish settlers. I have had the good fortune to find two of them, and one *kantele*-player even chanted a bit of the "Kalevala," that ancient folk poetry of the Finns which is known to most Americans through its English translations. The poetry, without its ancient runo-tunes, is rather generally known among the Finnish settlers, and its woods gods, talking birch trees, and moose-hunting heroes seem quite at home in our forests and swamp lands. A good deal of the knowledge and study of the "Kalevala" is a result of the intelligent work of the Kaleva Lodge, a society of Finnish-Americans, chiefly middle-aged men and women. For several years the Minnesota branches have held a summer camp of a week for young people, devoted to the Finnish culture. There you may see fragments of the "Kalevala" acted out; and the old dances, which are fast dying out among the older people, revived and danced with great spirit by high-school girls and boys.

Finnish dance tunes are gay and Finnish humor is charming. The latter appears in many of the songs, and there are so many hearty rollicking tunes that one wonders if the usual American idea of "the gloomy music of the northern countries" is not a misconception. Even the melancholy airs, of which there are plenty and among the most lovely, have no feeling of self-pity; they are rather detached in spirit and have a mysticism of a purely Finnish type, as unconscious of its quality as a stream or a spruce would be.

Listening to the very old song of "The Cuckoo Calling on the Shore of Lake Saima," or the gayer but still thoughtful and symbolic song called "The Juniper Tree," you will feel their essential Finnish quality. It is not only that the airs are different from other folk tunes, but that in both tunes and words one feels the imagination, the poetry of a reserved and shy race, using song as its natural expression.

MARJORIE EDGAR

MARINE ON THE ST. CROIX, MINNESOTA

A "PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP" MEDAL

In the summer of 1932, Mr. J. C. Cavill, United States Indian agent at the Red Lake Reservation, ordered the removal of six Indian graves between the villages of Redby and Red Lake, which were in line with a new highway that was being constructed. The relatives of those buried there were notified of the date of exhuming and several of them were present at the removals. They noted that the graves were those of three men, — one of whom had been a chief, — a little girl, an old woman, and a younger woman. When one of the graves was being opened, Mrs. Ella Badboy, who had responded to the invitation to be present at the exhuming, remarked that she remembered well when Tebishgobenais, her husband, the chief whose remains would be found there, was buried. A big dance, she said, had been held, and with him was buried a medal given by a United States president to his father. The medal was found as she had predicted. It is of silver, two and three-eighths inches in diameter, and is quite intact. On the reverse side of it, the words "Peace and Friendship" are plainly readable. Both above and below the words are a peace pipe and a tomahawk with stems crossed. Between "Peace and" and "Friendship" are two hands clasped in a friendly handclasp. On the obverse side is a badly corroded portrait of the head of some person, quite evidently that of Washington.

In our efforts to identify the medal, we wrote to the superintendent of the United States Mint at Philadelphia. The following is his answer to our inquiry:

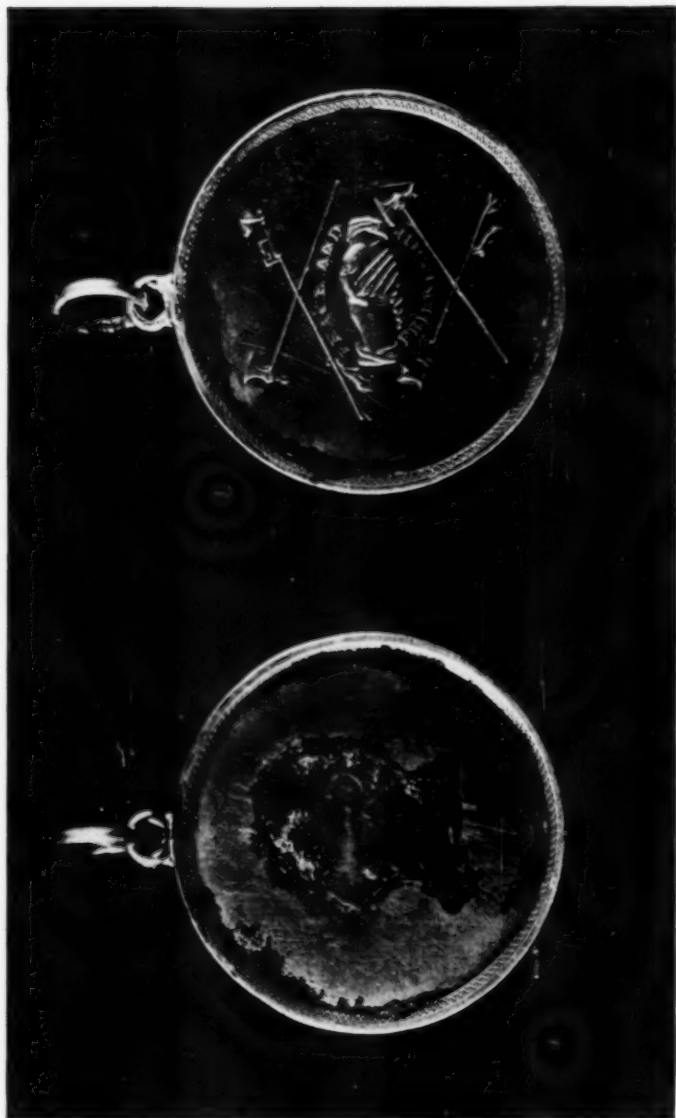
The United States Government during the Presidency of Washington adopted the policy of presenting medals to the various Indian chiefs who visited the nation's capitol, but these medals were more often given by army officers on the frontier, who were representing the Government in making treaties with the various Indian tribes and at the councils where they were trying to win the friendship of the Indians. These medals became known as "Indian Peace Medals." The French and British both had been giving such medals many years prior to the adoption of the policy by our Government.

The first known medal given by our Government dates around 1789, which was before the establishment of the mint. These early medals were not struck from dies but were ovals of silver with the design engraved on each medal separately. After the establishment of the mint, the medals were struck from dies in the usual manner with the design in relief. Similar medals were also given by the various fur trading companies.

The medal described in this letter has the same REVERSE as that of the medals given by the Astor Fur Trading Co., except that it is smaller in size and does not have the word FORT UNION at the top and the letters U. M. O. at the bottom. The OBERSE no doubt carried a portrait of Washington which had been struck in a die (the famous Wright die) then pierced out and soldered on the plain field of the medal, which may have been of a different metal. The New York Numismatic Society (156th Street and Broadway, New York City) has in its collection one such medal as is described here. It is very rare and practically nothing is known about its origin, who made them and by whom presented to the Indians. They were not United States Government medals. I would suggest that you write to the above mentioned Society, who may be able to shed more light on the question.

The curator for the American Numismatic Society, referred to in the letter of the superintendent of the United States Mint, answered our inquiry as follows:

The Indian peace medal that you write about is most interesting. Up to date we have the only known specimen of this medal, which was found some years ago at Mineral Point, Wisconsin. It is not a governmental medal but may have been given out by some fur company or by some private expedition or group of travellers. As the reverse was made from the same die as was used on the Astor medal, the date of the making of the piece in question could not have been



"PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP" MEDAL FOUND NEAR RED LAKE
[Obverse and reverse, actual size.]

before 1833 when the Astor medal was made. As the Astor Fur Company went to considerable expense in making these dies their die must have been the original die. This is all we can tell you about the medal, nor do we know of anyone who could give you any more information.

The Red Lake Indian Agency is at present in possession of the medal.

SISTER M. INEZ HILGER

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY
ALTOONA, WISCONSIN

FORT BEAUHARNOIS OR BEAUHARNAIS

For most regions the question of the proper spelling and pronunciation of the name of a certain governor of New France, Charles de Beauharnois (as he wrote it), is purely academic. For Minnesota, on the other hand, it is a practical question, since a noted fort on the Mississippi, on Lake Pepin, bore the governor's name. Are we, then, to spell the name in the manner of the seventeenth century, or as it is spelled in modern France? In any event, we must cease to pronounce it "Bo-ar-nwah" and begin to pronounce it properly, that is "Bo-ar-nay." (Of course this is merely an attempt to express French sounds in English equivalents.)

In the seventeenth century many terminations in *ois* were the equivalents of the modern *ais*. Practical examples are: *j'avois* for *j'avais*; *je reconnois* for *je reconnais*; and *je disois* for *je disais*. For some years it has been a question among historians whether Beauharnois should not be pronounced Beauharnais. If one looks in *Gasc's Concise Dictionary of the French and English Languages* (London, 1933), one finds: "Harnais (*poet. & old*, Harnois)." If one seeks farther, one can find in the library at La Rochelle a "*Recueil de pièces concernant la famille Beauharnais*." This is collection number 612 among the manuscripts of that library. The following description of certain folios in that collection, as published by G. Musset in his volume on the La Rochelle library in the *Catalogue général des Manuscrits*

des Bibliothèques de France (vol. 8, Paris, 1889), has interest for Canada and Minnesota as showing how Frenchmen spell (and pronounce) the name:

fol. 45. Mémoire par dame Renée le Pays, épouse de M^r Charles de Beauharnais . . . gouverneur du Canada . . . Imprimé. Paris. Mesnier. 1729.

fol. 49. Quatre lettres et pièces concernants Charles de Beauharnais de la Boische, dit le chevalier, puis le marquis de Beauharnais, lieutenant général des armées du Roi, gouverneur du Canada et de Quebec. 1700-1735.

GRACE LEE NUTE

LONDON, ENGLAND

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

The United States, 1830-1850: The Nation and Its Sections. By FREDERICK JACKSON TURNER. With an Introduction by AVERY CRAVEN. (New York, Henry Holt and Company, 1935. xiv, 602 p. Illustrations, maps. College edition, \$3.60; trade edition, \$4.75.)

This second posthumous volume from the pen of the most distinguished interpreter of American history is a synthesis based on thirty years of research and teaching during which the author plumbed the depths of one of the most interesting and controversial periods in American history. The sudden death of Professor Turner on March 14, 1932, cut his labors short, and the manuscript was left uncompleted. One chapter, on the "Taylor Administration and the Compromise of 1850," was never written; and there are interpolations in the text to indicate that the author intended to augment, polish, and recast certain parts. Copious citations to sources and secondary works reveal the vast body of notes from which the synthesis was made. Professor Turner and the men to whom fell the task of seeing the book through the press were aware of certain inconsistencies, but it seemed wiser to print the manuscript as Turner left it, after purging out obvious errors. Except for a very disappointing index and the absence of a photograph of Professor Turner, which ought to have been included, the "labor of love" on the part of the editors has been performed with credit. The great historian is the architect of every chapter.

The author conceived the period from 1830 to 1850 to have a marked individuality, "so far as any era in the history of the Union can be studied by itself." Following an introductory chapter which presents succinctly the physiographic provinces of the United States and three maps showing the distribution of population, a chapter is devoted to a survey of the United States in 1830 and a brilliant essay on Jacksonian democracy. To his students Professor Turner speedily betrayed his admiration for "Old Hickory." "This volcanic son of the South Central section," he writes, "represented the dominant forces of his time, and his capacity for the achievement of his ends makes him the outstanding figure of the era."

Six chapters are given to as many sections. Each chapter is a matrix of facts pertaining to personalities, economics, society, politics, education, religion, journalism, transportation, movements of population, including immigration, and reform movements, jeweled with generalizations and characterizations, sometimes softening the judgments of previous writers and sometimes laying bare factors which misled contemporaries and historians. Webster, Calhoun, Clay, John Quincy Adams, Van Buren, Benton, Polk—stars of the first magnitude and satellites—appear through the refining lens of the historian. The sectional setting of leaders is carefully worked out; and the ramifications of politics in each section are skillfully traced. The danger of overgeneralizing on purely geographic and economic grounds is checked by the consideration of stock and personal leadership. There are also observations with respect to the projection of movements, such as the Locofoco party, into later periods.

Four chapters delineate the political history of the period by administrations, concluding with Polk. In these pages the careful and just historian gives credit where it is due and withholds it where it has been erroneously given. Van Buren's administration, which has been neglected in the pages of history, receives as many pages as that of Polk; and the "little magician" proves to be a president of "tact, political sagacity, and initiative." In emergencies he acted with calmness and courage, in spite of hotheads among his friends and advisers. The Tyler administration exhibited the "least satisfactory pages in the history of Henry Clay." Turner feels that there is reason to think that Tyler was not only honest and courageous but also a man of ability, of ingratiating personality, charm of manner, and tact, thus taking sharp issue with Theodore Roosevelt, for whom Turner had high admiration as a great force for righteousness. In dealing with Polk, the author asserts that perhaps no president left a deeper impression upon the immediate future of the country and its destiny. He rejects the judgments of Polk's enemies that he was a mediocrity and lacking in moral fiber. The former trusted spokesman for Jackson in Congress appears as a painstaking, conscientious, industrious president, whose efforts to solve two exceedingly difficult diplomatic problems were hampered by sectional strife, petty jealousies, and frustrated ambitions.

It is given to few men to attain the distinction of leaving an unfin-

ished manuscript worthy of publication; and while Professor Turner's admirers may regret that he was unable to overcome what Professor Craven calls his dislike of having "his researches halted and his ideas crystallized by publication," they are fortunate to be able to include in their libraries this monument to the pioneer historian of the pioneer.

GEORGE M. STEPHENSON

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

The Agricultural Fair (Columbia University, *Studies in the History of American Agriculture*, no. 2). By WAYNE CALDWELL NEELY, assistant professor of sociology, Hood College. (New York, Columbia University Press, 1935. xii, 313 p. Illustrations. \$3.75.)

"How has the agricultural fair come to be what it is? What forces in society brought about the establishment of fairs, what motives have led men to organize and perpetuate them? What changes has the fair as an institution undergone, how have types evolved within the agricultural fair as a type, what special interests of human beings have been served thereby? What is the status of the fair in the present day American agricultural scene? What influence does it exert in the community in which it is held and in the general agricultural, industrial and social life of the nation? What problems has the fair confronted at different times and places? What are the sociological aspects of the fair in actual progress?" These are the questions that the author propounded for himself to answer in this book, and in general the results are satisfactory.

The approach is that of the sociologist and social historian whose initial interest is "the evolutionary and functional aspects of a dynamic American institution." The general reader will find the book, which is written in a lucid style, more valuable than the specialist in agricultural or economic history, as the detailed chronicling of facts and events concerning specific fairs has been held to a decided minimum. Natives and residents of the Middle Border will gain very little information on the fairs of their domain, but they are provided with a broad background and interpretation for the fairs in which they may have a particular interest.

The author's chief interest is the social significance of the agricultural fair, and his main contribution relates to this phase of the subject. His detailed discussion of its educational, recreational, and socializational aspects is valuable. Even after recalling the close nexus of the fairs with the agricultural societies, the reader will be surprised at the extensive treatment that the latter receive. The concluding chapter, devoted to "The Fair in a Changing Society," has much of value for all who are interested in the agricultural welfare of this country.

The extensive bibliography is not annotated, and the user will therefore be hampered in his efforts to locate the more valuable material, as well as that on specific fairs and periods. Those who have spent years in making the library of the United States department of agriculture the greatest deposit of materials of the kind described in the "Bibliographical Note" (p. 267) may wonder why their efforts have not been mentioned.

EVERETT E. EDWARDS

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Dr. Solon J. Buck, who served as superintendent of the society from 1914 to 1931, when he went to Pittsburgh to become director of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, has been nominated by President Roosevelt to the position of director of publications of the National Archives. No man in the country is better equipped than Dr. Buck to fill this highly important post. The society offers its good wishes and congratulations to its former superintendent upon the honor and opportunity afforded him by his transfer to the national capital. His appointment augurs well for the success of the new archives administration.

The article by John T. Flanagan on "Thoreau in Minnesota" which appeared in the March issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY is the subject of editorial comment in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for May 12. "This New England poet-naturalist came to Minnesota in search of health," reads the editorial. "He saw the western rivers, the cities growing, some Indian life, the opening of settlements. . . . After a short visit, he went back to his native Concord to die." Regret that Thoreau failed to visit northeastern Minnesota is expressed, and the suggestion is made that "perchance a year here might have cured him."

Eleven additions were made to the active membership of the society during the three months ending June 30, 1935. They include one life member, Frank T. Heffelfinger of Minneapolis; and the following annual members: Dr. A. F. Branton of Willmar; Mrs. C. E. Chase of Anoka; Kenneth J. Crawford and Lewis F. Crawford of Minneapolis, Major Albert L. Evans of Fort Snelling; Agnes Pond of Shakopee; Jay L. Putnam of Granite Falls; Gustav T. Rasche of Minneapolis; Lester I. Strouse of St. Paul; and Joel G. Winkjer of Washington, D. C.

The Omaha Railway Veterans' Association, the Minnesota Taxpayers Association, and the Murray and Winona county historical societies have become institutional members of the society.

The society lost ten active members by death during the quarter ending on June 30: David W. Aberle of St. Paul, April 22; Charles E. Vasaly of St. Paul, April 24; Mrs. Joseph L. Harper of Minneapolis, April 27; William J. Olcott of Duluth, April 29; William F. Peet of St. Paul, May 3; Edward H. Cutler of St. Paul, June 2; Dr. Herman M. Johnson of Dawson, June 19; Peter J. Seberger of St. Cloud, June 19; Sam G. Anderson of Hutchinson, June 22; and Judge Chelsea J. Rockwood of Minneapolis, June 23. A corresponding member, Edmond S. Meany of Seattle, died on April 22. The death of Mrs. Henry Nicolls of La Jolla, California, on January 25, 1934, has not previously been reported in this magazine.

Through an FERA project approved and supported by the State Executive Council the lower terrace of the society's building is being excavated and a large newspaper filing room is being built. It is expected that the space thus made available will solve for another fifteen or twenty years the difficult problems of filing and storage created by the steady expansion of the society's collection of newspapers.

About ten thousand people viewed the exhibits in the society's museum during the second quarter of 1935. Of these, nearly three thousand were members of classes and special groups.

An inventory of the papers of organizations and institutions in the possession of the society is being compiled. Miss Elizabeth Shippee worked on the inventory during the month of July.

Dr. Grace Lee Nute, the society's curator of manuscripts, will resume her position as curator of manuscripts on August 15, after a year of study in England and France as a fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation of New York.

Dr. Charles M. Gates, acting curator of manuscripts on the staff of the society during the past year, resigned late in June to accept an appointment as regional historian for the National Parks Service, with headquarters at Omaha, Nebraska.

Miss Jerabek, the head of the accessions department, attended the annual meeting of the American Library Association, which was held at Denver from June 24 to 29. She attended sessions on such subjects as public documents, cataloguing, library reference work, and book ordering. In a discussion of binding she learned about the new

spiral, or marginless binding. At another session Dr. Otto Kinkeldey of Cornell University explained the profession of the "research bibliographer." At yet another session, Miss Winifred Gregory reported that part of the union list of newspapers in the libraries of the United States and Canada is in proof. The Minnesota Historical Society is contributing the Minnesota section to this important bibliographical project.

Miss Jerabek's article on "The Transition of a New-World Bohemia," originally published *ante*, 15:26-42, appears with some additions of local material in the *Silver Lake Leader* from April 13 to May 18. Portraits of a number of McLeod County Czech pioneers and church leaders accompany the installments, which appear under the title "A Little Bohemia in the Western World."

Mr. Babcock's suggestions about "Hunting History by Automobile," which appeared in the June issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY, were published also in the *Rural Program Help* for May.

A picture of the society's building and a statement about its library appear in a pamphlet entitled *Education for Today's World*, issued recently by the University of Minnesota to illustrate the opportunities that have attracted foreign students to its classrooms (24 p.).

The superintendent spoke on the "Lure of Minnesota History" before the Catholic Guild of St. Paul on April 1; on "Small Discoveries in a Great Past" before the Minneapolis College Women's Club on April 15; on "Prophet, Crusader, and Apostle of Protest: Three Unusual Minnesotans" before a faculty dinner club of the University of Minnesota on May 7, and on the work of the society before the Minnesota district judges meeting in St. Paul on June 27. Mr. Babcock appeared before a group of Twin City cataloguers meeting in St. Paul to describe methods of cataloguing pictures on April 23; he addressed organization meetings of the Wilkin and Winona county historical societies on May 2 and June 1; and he spoke on the "Fur Trade as an Aid to Settlement" at Sauk Rapids on April 27, and on "Visualizing Minnesota" at the Minnesota Soldiers' Home on June 28. Talks on the "St. Croix Valley as Seen in Letters and Diaries" before members of the Washington County Historical Society at Bayport and on the "Players and the Plot in the Drama of Minnesota History" before the wives of members of

the Reserve Officers Association at Minneapolis were given by Mr. Gates on May 1 and June 11.

ACCESSIONS

Recent additions to the collections of the society have been both numerous and of unusually interesting quality. The notes that follow describe briefly the nature of the newly added materials. It is hoped that many members and friends of the society, upon reading these notes, will be encouraged to present historical records now in their possession which ought to be preserved permanently in such an institution as the Minnesota Historical Society.

Two boxes of papers for the period from 1849 to 1898, about nine hundred pamphlets, thirty-four copies of newspapers, and six maps accumulated by Minnesota's first territorial governor, Alexander Ramsey, have been presented by his daughter, Mrs. Charles E. Furness of St. Paul. The manuscripts, which have been added to the large and valuable collection of Ramsey Papers already in the possession of the society, include letters from Edward D. Neill, Joseph Wheelock, Christopher C. Andrews, Henry H. Sibley, and others; documents relating to the treaty of Traverse des Sioux; and tax receipts for the period from 1852 to 1866. Among the subjects touched upon in the letters are Canadian annexation, the promotion of emigration, Minnesota railroad projects in 1880, the St. Paul Library Association, and the appointment of officers for Minnesota regiments in the Civil and Sioux wars. The pamphlets received from Mrs. Furness include rare copies of Ramsey's messages as governor to territorial and state legislatures, published in English, German, French, and Norwegian; a copy of a treaty negotiated with the Sioux by James M. Doty in 1842, which was published as a *Confidential Executive Document*; several government documents relating to the Fisk expeditions; and a St. Paul directory for 1863. Among the Minnesota newspapers are three issues of the *Watab Reveille*, which was printed in St. Paul for circulation in Benton County in 1851; and two numbers of the *Stillwater Messenger* for 1862.

A census of the Indians of the St. Peter's agency in 1846 and letters of the late forties relating to the Sioux, Chippewa, and Winnebago Indians are among the items of Minnesota interest noted on

calendar cards for papers in the Indian office, received recently from Dr. Newton D. Mereness, agent at Washington for several midwestern historical societies. The efforts of Henry M. Rice to find a new home west of the Mississippi for the Winnebago are noted on cards for several letters; the treaty negotiated with the Chippewa at Fond du Lac in August, 1847, is the subject of others. References to Indian missions and schools appear on a number of cards, which call attention to reports for 1846 on work at the Lac qui Parle, Traverse des Sioux, and Oak Grove missions, and at schools conducted by W. H. Brockway at Fond du Lac and Sandy Lake; and to correspondence relating to Bishop Joseph Cretin's efforts to establish a Catholic school among the Winnebago.

The diary of Daniel M. Storer, in which he tells of journeys from Maine to Illinois in 1849, thence to Stillwater in 1851, up the St. Croix River, and finally to Shakopee, and of life in the latter place from 1853 to 1905, has been photographed for the society from the original in the possession of his son, Mr. Charles C. Storer of Shakopee. Among the entries are some relating to houses that Storer, who was a carpenter, built for new settlers at the various places in which he resided, and to a grocery business that he conducted after 1863. There are numerous references to musical and theatrical entertainments, in many of which Storer participated as a fiddler. Comments also are included on steamboats that plied the waters of the Minnesota River, on local politics, on the building of railroads, on real estate speculation in Shakopee and St. Paul, and on the Sioux and Civil wars.

Letters written to Gideon H. Pond by his brother Samuel and by his fellow missionaries, Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, Stephen R. Riggs, Alexander Huggins, and Robert Hopkins, are among sixty-four items photographed for the society from originals in the possession of members of the Pond family, through the courtesy of Mrs. George A. Pond of St. Paul. The letters, most of which date from the forties and early fifties, relate to daily life and activities at the Lac qui Parle, Kaposia, and Prairieville missions, to the work of translating the scriptures into Dakota, and to the publication of a mission paper.

Letters by or relating to Mr. and Mrs. Abner S. Goddard, pioneer residents of Winona, are among fifty-four letters written to Aaron C.

Nevius between 1829 and 1859 by friends and relatives, typewritten copies of which have been presented by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The originals are in the possession of Mrs. Philo Buck of Madison. In a letter of February 19, 1853, Robert H. Laird writes as follows of Mrs. Goddard's new home in Minnesota: "her location is Winona, Wabasha Co. Minnesota Territory. . . . As the Country is nearly New they may be short of some of the necessaries of life during part of the Winter Season, as steam boats ply regularly betwixt Galena & St Pauls while the navigation is open, and of course will be the making of that part of the Country laying near this Majestic stream. but it is too far North to please me, but Catharine says she likes Minnesota climate, and enjoys good health." Photographic copies have been made for the society of genealogical charts of the Nevius family compiled by Miss Mary S. Foster.

Among sixteen items from the papers of Joseph P. Wilson, received from Mr. Ernest E. Jones of Los Angeles, are letters from his brother, John L., written in 1854, in which he tells of the laying out of the village of St. Cloud; documents relating to the claim of W. A. Corbett to a share in the townsite of St. Augusta; and a draft of a letter written by Wilson in 1869 to the president of the Northern Pacific Railroad, in which he mentions the charter of the St. Cloud and Minneapolis Railroad, his connection with the Fisk expedition, and a plan for transporting freight from Minnesota to Montana.

Two letters written from St. Paul in 1859 by Frederick P. Leavenworth, a young surveyor who laid out the trail over which the "Anson Northup" was transported from Crow Wing to Red River, have been added to his papers (see *ante*, 15:111) by Mr. Warren H. Biggs of Williamston, North Carolina. In these letters Leavenworth mentions the five million dollar loan, the beginnings of Minnesota railroads, and the laying out of townsites in the Red River region by a St. Paul company.

The certificates of appointment and official orders issued to Dr. Levi Butler as captain and surgeon in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War have been presented by his nephew, Dr. E. B. Newcomb of Pasadena, California, through the courtesy of Mr. E. Fitch Pabody of Minneapolis. Accompanying the documents are two memorial resolutions adopted by the trustees of Mac-

alester College and of the First Baptist Church of Minneapolis at the time of Butler's death in 1878.

Steamboating on the upper Mississippi, William H. Seward's visit to Minnesota in 1860, the escape of missionaries during the Sioux massacre of 1862, a Sioux sun dance at Fort Sully, and a meeting of the Dakota mission at the Yankton agency in 1873 are among the topics touched upon in the transcripts and calendar cards made for the society from files in the Congregational Library in Boston, of the *Independent*, the *Congregationalist*, and the *Daily Evening Traveller* for the period from 1849 to 1873. Descriptions of Minnesota in 1849 and an article by Stephen R. Riggs on civilizing and Christianizing the Indians are included among the transcripts.

Records of the St. Anthony Turnverein of Minneapolis for the period from 1868 to 1928 have been presented by that organization, through the courtesy of Mr. William R. Kuehn of Minneapolis. Included are minutes of meetings of the local and Minnesota district societies, correspondence, letter books, account books, and invitations to gymnastic exhibitions by Turners in other parts of the United States. The account books contain records of expenditures for social activities, for sickness insurance benefits paid to members, for the building of a gymnasium in 1913, and for conducting gymnasium classes. About twenty books and thirteen pamphlets relating to the Turners and their activities also have been received from the St. Anthony Turnverein.

Twenty-two letters containing information about the organization of German Lutheran congregations in the vicinities of Albert Lea, Blue Earth, and Spring Valley have been photographed for the society through the courtesy of the Reverend George Fritschel of Dubuque, Iowa. The letters, which were written between 1866 and 1874 by the Reverend Michael Reck, are part of a larger collection relating to German Lutheran missionary and colonizing activities in the United States which Mr. Fritschel obtained in Germany.

A small diary kept by Mr. S. L. Peck of Ira, Vermont, during a steamboat trip on the Missouri River from Fort Benton to St. Louis in 1876 has been photographed for the society from the original in the possession of the author.

Twenty items from the papers of the Reverend James G. St. Lawrence, consisting of certificates and testimonials issued by the Church of England and letters from William C. Pope and Bishop Henry B. Whipple touching upon St. Lawrence's ministry at Fairmont in 1879, have been presented by Mrs. Emily Pope Eckel of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

A diary of service in the Philippine Insurrection, kept by Edward L. Barry of the Forty-fifth United States Volunteer Infantry, is one item in a collection of family papers deposited with the society by his widow, Mrs. Edith L. Barry of Utica, New York. Deeds executed in Suffolk County, Massachusetts, during the colonial period; account books kept by George B. Hunt from 1823 to 1863 as a blacksmith in Canton, Massachusetts; and a certificate of membership in the Red River colony, issued to Oliver W. Hunt of Andover, Massachusetts, also are included.

A copy of the manuscript autobiography of Andrus R. Merritt, one of the seven brothers who discovered and brought to the attention of the world the iron resources of the Mesabi Range, has been received from the author, now a resident of Los Angeles. The narrative, which is entitled "The Story of the Mesabi," includes accounts of pioneer life at Onyota, now a part of Duluth, of the discovery of the range, and of the transactions by which members of the Merritt family lost control of the mines.

Eight scrapbooks of clippings, correspondence, and photographs accumulated by the late Mrs. Marshall H. Coolidge of Minneapolis chiefly during the period between 1901 and 1932 have been added by her family to the collection established in her memory by the Monument chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Minneapolis (see *ante*, 15:343). Local and national activities of the Daughters of the American Revolution, of which Mrs. Coolidge was state regent, the child welfare work in Minneapolis of the Council of National Defense, and the presidential election of 1920 are among the subjects touched upon.

The descendants of John and Mary Kelly Conger of Woodbridge, New Jersey, are traced in a mass of genealogical data collected by Charles L. Conger and received from his widow, Mrs. Louise A. Conger of Minneapolis. The material, which fills one filing box and thirteen volumes, includes copies of documents and letters dating

from 1899 to 1934 and a letter book for the period from 1906 to 1911.

A paper on "The Reaction of Northern Minnesota Indians to the Missionary Efforts of Edmund Franklin Ely," by Elaine Johnson, for which the writer was recently awarded the Funk prize in history at Macalester College, is the gift of the author.

A copy of a pageant depicting the history and development of the Red River Valley, which was presented at Crookston on February 7 as a feature of the twenty-fifth annual Northwest School Farmer's Week and Red River Valley Winter Shows (see *ante*, p. 237) has been presented by Mr. A. A. Dowell of Crookston. The typewritten text is accompanied by numerous photographs of the scenes that were portrayed.

A brief history of school district number 5, Mendota Township, Dakota County, by Mrs. George H. Staples, which was read at a meeting on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the district, is the gift of the author (see *ante*, 15:367).

Bayport when it was known as Baytown and South Stillwater is the subject of a paper presented by the author, Miss Myrna Swenson of Bayport, who read it at a meeting of the Washington County Historical Society on May 1.

Letters and articles read at the sixtieth anniversary celebration of the Luverne Methodist Episcopal Church on April 4, 1932, have been copied for the society through the courtesy of Mrs. Frederick F. Lindsay of Minneapolis. They contain information about the founding of the church and about pioneer life at Luverne.

A copy of the minutes of the golden anniversary celebration of the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Ortonville on April 7, 1935, has been presented by Mrs. Walter Hanson of Ortonville.

Biographical sketches of Alf E. Boyesen, John E. Burchard, Chester L. Caldwell, Harry P. Churchill, Andrew Dahlen, Edward H. Morphy, Forrest R. Poppe, Edward P. Sanborn, Samuel Whaley, and Wade H. Yardley, deceased members of the Ramsey County Bar Association, have been presented by that organization (see *ante*, 15:467).

"Saint Paul Foreign Born Population Studies" is the subject of twenty-five graphs which were compiled as a research project of the Minnesota Emergency Relief Administration and presented by the St. Paul City Planning Board, which sponsored the project. An introduction by Miss Katherine Spear accompanies the graphs.

More than three hundred bound volumes of German-American newspapers have been presented by National Weeklies, Incorporated, a firm located at Winona which has consolidated under one management forty-eight German newspapers previously published in various parts of the United States and Canada. Included in the collection are files of the *Lincoln Freie Presse*, established at Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1884, a well-known mouthpiece of German-Americans in the Middle West; the *Westlicher Herold*, which was established at Winona in 1881; and the *Folksblat des Westens*, which was published at Winona from 1898 to 1920. Among other interesting and valuable files in the collection are such rare papers as the *Winona Banner*, which was published for a short time in 1866; *Der Mississippi Bote*, published at Winona from November, 1870, to March, 1871; and the *Winona Adler*, which appeared in the middle seventies. A file of the *Deutsch Amerikanischer Farmer*, an agricultural paper published at Lincoln in 1897, also is included. The addition of this valuable gift to the already large collection of German-American newspapers in the possession of the society makes this institution one of the most important depositories for such publications in the United States.

A file of the *Celtic World*, an Irish Catholic newspaper published in Minneapolis in the eighties, is the gift of the publisher, Mr. C. G. Early of St. Paul.

A copy of the rare first edition, in Swedish, of Pehr Kalm's *En Resa til Norra America*, published at Stockholm in three volumes between 1753 and 1761, has been received from Mr. R. H. Holm of Warren. This important work of American travel was published by the author, a Swedish botanist, at his own expense after his return from a journey, during the years 1748 to 1750, which took him into Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and eastern Canada. The purpose of this expedition was the collection of American seeds and plants, but Kalm also kept and published records of the "civil, ecclesi-

astical, and commercial state of the country, the manners of the inhabitants," and many other matters. That his observations proved to be of interest to Europeans may be judged from the fact that by 1772 Kalm's book had appeared in German, Dutch, English, and French editions. The first edition of this work now takes its place on the society's shelves beside the first English edition, which was published in 1771 under the title *Travels into North America*.

An important addition to the society's collection of books and pamphlets on immigrant groups in America is *Suomalaiset Amerikassa* by Akseli Järnefelt (Helsingissä, 1899), a pamphlet on the Finnish element. In this work Minnesota is credited with having a larger Finnish population than any other state. According to the 1930 census it is now superseded by Michigan.

Volumes 1 and 34 of the *Latter-Day Saints Millennial Star*, published in England respectively in 1840 and 1872, have been added to the society's library. Although the periodical was issued for the English Latter Day Saints, these volumes contain much information about the sect in America.

The Emigrant's Directory and Guide to Obtain Lands and Effect a Settlement in the Canadas by Francis A. Evans (Dublin, 1833), a volume which was issued for those planning to follow agricultural pursuits in Canada, is a recent addition to the society's library. It was designed particularly for Irish emigrants and emphasized the desirability of settling in lower Canada.

Several interesting items relating to the career of Homer Martin, the distinguished American landscape painter who made his home in St. Paul from 1893 until his death in 1897, have been presented by Mrs. William C. Brownell of New York. An unbound copy of a biography by Mrs. Martin entitled *Homer Martin: A Reminiscence* (New York, 1904. 58 p.) contains many excellent reproductions of Martin's canvases, some of which were executed in St. Paul. Numerous references to Martin are to be found in a volume entitled *William Crary Brownell: An Anthology of His Writings, together with Biographical Notes and Impressions of the Later Years* by Mrs. Brownell (New York, 1933); and several paragraphs about his work and his career appear in a copy of *Art Notes*, a publication of the Macbeth Gallery of New York, for April, 1917.

A valuable history in three volumes of the *New Jersey Sisters of Charity* (New York, 1933) has been received from the author, Sister Mary Agnes Sharkey of the Convent of St. Elizabeth, Morris County, New Jersey. The first two volumes deal with the life of Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan (1859-1933), an aunt of the late Mrs. James J. Hill of St. Paul, who furnished the author with biographical information for the volumes.

The Reverend L. J. Ahlstrom of Minneapolis has presented an inscribed copy of his book entitled *Eighty Years of Swedish Baptist Work in Iowa, 1853-1933* (Des Moines, 1933. 479 p.). It includes information about a congregation that was organized at Burlington in 1854 and a year later "moved to Carver county, Minnesota Territory," where it became known as the Scandia Baptist Church. One of the members of this congregation, Andrew Peterson, kept a diary, from which some items relating to pioneer life in the Minnesota Valley are quoted.

A small yoke made in 1852 for use in breaking calves is the gift of the family of Sanford M. Scott, through the courtesy of Mrs. Walter Scott of Rockville Center, Long Island, New York.

A tool chest used by Darwin Patterson as ship's carpenter on the yacht that brought the silver cup to America in 1851 is the gift of Mrs. Luella Brown Wilson of Rochester.

A boom chain that was used by the Mississippi and Rum River Boom Company and an ox yoke evener are the gifts of Mr. John W. Babcock of Minneapolis.

A uniform coat, knapsacks, canteens, Philippine weapons, a military chest, a collection of stereographs of views in the Philippine Islands, and other objects connected with the service in Company E, Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, of W. Ben Williams during the Spanish-American War, have been presented by Mrs. Williams, who resides in St. Paul. Mr. Harry G. Brant of St. Paul has presented a uniform that he wore as a corporal in Company B, Fifteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, during the same war.

Recent additions to the costume collection include a paisley shawl and several nightcaps dating from 1820, a gown worn at a Lafayette

ball in 1824, and articles of children's clothing dating from the seventies, received from Miss Annie Carpenter of St. Paul; a wedding gown of the seventies and a black net dress of the nineties, presented by Miss Frances E. Blake of St. Paul; nightcaps worn about 1860 and a black moire parasol used in the seventies, from Mrs. William T. Westphal of St. Paul; several articles of infant's clothing dating from 1873 and 1888, from Mrs. Homer M. Carr of Proctor; a pair of child's shoes worn in 1875, from Mrs. Anne Mosier of Stillwater; and costumes worn during the St. Paul winter carnival of 1886, from Miss Elizabeth Yardley of St. Paul. Among the articles illustrative of early domestic life received recently are several pieces of household linen, a string of sleigh bells, and a small hand press used in making jelly, from Miss Blake; a handwoven tablecloth dating from 1815, from Miss Carpenter; a French clock, a pair of brass candlesticks, purses, and a fan, from Miss Alice Shields of St. Paul; a peacock feather duster, from Miss L. A. Belden of St. Paul; and a seam holder and a child's savings bank, from Dr. J. C. Ferguson of St. Paul.

Mr. A. B. Gilbert of Mound has presented 445 pictures illustrative of the activities of the Nonpartisan League. Among the portraits recently presented to the society are those of Henry C. Burbank of St. Cloud, from the William C. Mitchell family, through the courtesy of Mrs. Arthur B. Anderson of St. Paul; of the Reverend John W. Nealis of St. Paul from Miss Belinda Nealis, through the courtesy of Mrs. Grace D. Laviorie of St. Paul; of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Spangler, from Mr. H. D. Spangler of St. Paul; and of Mr. and Mrs. Leander Gorton of Minneapolis, from Mr. B. H. Truman of Minneapolis.

NEWS AND COMMENT

The various offset and photographic processes that are being used today in lieu of printing, typing, photostating, and the like are described as "New Tools for Men of Letters" by Robert C. Binkley in the spring number of the *Yale Review*. Since a miniature camera is being employed extensively by the Minnesota Historical Society for the copying of manuscripts and other rare materials, users of its resources should find this article of special interest. According to Professor Binkley "Micro-copying is a technique that will serve in the twentieth century to do what printing and publishing cannot always accomplish: give the reader exactly what he wants, and bring it to him wherever he wants to use it." He points out that "micro-copying can bring the resources of the Library of Congress to the small-town high-school teacher, just as the radio brings the symphony orchestra." By the same token the miniature camera is bringing to readers in the manuscript division of the Minnesota Historical Society documents from Paris, Quebec, and Washington, and at small expense it can take to students living in remote parts of the state or in San Francisco or New York letters from the Sibley Papers, the Donnelly Papers, or any of the many other collections preserved by the society.

The history of the national archives and of the movement for their preservation and care was surveyed by Congressman Clifton A. Woodrum of Virginia in a speech before the House of Representatives on March 13. He pointed out that the "establishment of the National Archives in 1934 brought into operation an activity and an agency of government which had been under careful consideration for 124 years and which had been the effort or ambition of every administration since 1878," and he noted that from 1880 to date there have been 69 bills introduced in Congress providing for a National Archives Building. Evidence that the movement had finally reached a successful climax was presented by the speaker, who recalled that the cornerstone of the archives building was laid on February 19, 1932, and that "the Seventy-third Congress placed the capstone of the work begun 124 years earlier by passing the National Archives Act of 1934." Mr.

Woodrum's speech has been printed in the form of a pamphlet (20 p.).

"A Ritual Parchment and Certain Historical Charts of the Bois Fort Ojibwa of Minnesota" by Albert B. Reagan is an article of unusual interest which appears in the April issue of *Americana*. While in the Indian service in northern Minnesota some years ago, Dr. Reagan spent much time collecting material illustrative of the cultural life of the more primitive groups of Chippewa, particularly the Bois Fort Chippewa. He was fortunate in accumulating such information as was available about the Midewiwin or grand medicine society, which was even then well on the decline. The charts and accompanying identifications appearing with the present article belong to the rituals of that society. "Farmer John's Red Medicine Dance Wigwam Parchment" is described, but, unfortunately for the student, the illustration is omitted. As each medicine society scroll differs considerably from all others, it is difficult to visualize the missing plate. Chief Moses Day's chart is an intricate and interesting record, although one may question its interpretation as "history." These birchbark scrolls, which record elaborate secret ceremonies combining legend, religion, and magic, are now exceedingly rare, and the number who can and will interpret them for posterity is small. Dr. Reagan is to be congratulated upon securing this valuable anthropological information.

W. M. B.

James J. Hill figures prominently in a chapter entitled "Seattle, Born of the Spirit," which appears in Glenn C. Quiett's volume entitled *They Built the West* (New York, 1934). Although the writer's chief interest is in the story of transportation in the Far West, he devotes some pages to an account of Hill's "building of the transcontinental Great Northern from St. Paul to the Pacific Coast," and he notes that "in the Red River lines were the roots of this system." Mention is made also of the activities of the "Empire Builder" in linking his railroad lines with the Orient by means of a steamship line, in building grain elevators, and in developing the iron resources of the Mesabi Range.

Installments of the autobiography of John F. Stevens have been appearing under the title "An Engineer's Recollections" in the *Engi-*

neering *News-Record* for March 21. The author played a major part in the construction of railroads that connect Minnesota with the Pacific and he was for many years closely associated with the late James J. Hill. His interesting narrative will be noted in greater detail in a future issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY.

Some of the writings of William J. Snelling, the talented son of the pioneer commandant for whom Fort Snelling was named, are reprinted in *The Call of the Columbia*, a volume of documents edited by Archer B. Hulbert and published by the Stewart Commission of Colorado College and the Denver Public Library (1934. 317 p.). The articles quoted are entitled "Oregon Territory" and "Geographical Sketch of Oregon Territory," and they are reprinted from the *New-England Magazine* for February and May, 1832.

Some information about wheat production in Minnesota and the upper Northwest and about water transportation between these places and the Atlantic seaboard is included in an article by Herbert J. Wunderlich on the "Foreign Grain Trade of the United States, 1835-1860," which appears in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for January.

An account of the emigration to America of Russians of German descent is given in *Russlanddeutsche Siedlungen in den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika* by Richard Sallet, a narrative reprinted in pamphlet form from the *German-American Historical Review* (Chicago, 1931. 126 p.). The author deals particularly with the Catholic and Evangelical emigrants from the regions of the Black Sea and the Volga River who settled in the Dakotas and other western states, where the prairie land was similar to that of their native country. Mention is made of the Minnesota settlements at Mountain Lake, Gaylord, Arlington, Glencoe, Winthrop, and Moorhead. Among the causes of emigration noted are the burden of military service, the desire for religious freedom, and the influence of advertising by the Burlington and Quincy and Santa Fé railroads. The social life and customs of the emigrants in America and their attitude toward the World War also are treated in the booklet.

G. W. A.

Miss Marjorie Edgar, whose article on "Finnish Folk Songs in Minnesota" appears in the present issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY,

contributes a discussion of the same subject to *Kalevainen*, a Finnish publication, for 1935. In it she describes her activities in collecting Finnish folk songs in northern Minnesota since 1927 and tells of her plans for translating and publishing them.

The story of the missionary services among the Sioux of members of the Pond, Williamson, and Riggs families is briefly outlined by Hermann N. Morse in a volume entitled *Toward a Christian America: The Contribution of Home Missions* (New York, 1935. 207 p.). The centennial of the beginning of the Dakota mission in Minnesota is noted, and the transfer to Nebraska of its work after the Sioux Outbreak is described.

Among the "Educational Institutions" mentioned in a *History of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America* by Ira F. McLeister (New York, 1934) is the Wasioja Institute. This school in Dodge County was conducted under the auspices of the Wesleyan church from 1873 to 1892.

"The Career of Captain Jerome Short" is the title under which the autobiography of a Mississippi River steamboat captain now residing at Peoria, Illinois, is being published in the *Wabasha County Herald Standard*. The narrative, which has been edited and prepared for publication by Captain Fred A. Bill of St. Paul, opens in the issue for April 25. Pioneer life in Illinois, where the Short family settled in 1838, and where Jerome was born, is described in the opening installments; an account of the beginning of his river career in 1865 follows. Succeeding chapters are of value to the student both of river traffic and of the lumber industry, for they deal for the most part with the author's experiences on the huge lumber rafts that were floated downstream from points on the St. Croix and the upper Mississippi. An informing account of the "log raft" is supplied by the editor in chapter 4.

The writer of an editorial in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 9 notes that a movement is under way to make a national park of Isle Royale. The island, reads the editorial, "is considered highly desirable as a national park because of its wilderness conditions, scenic beauty, interesting moose herd, and prehistoric copper mines."

The May issue of the *Palimpsest* is devoted to the general subject of "The Rise of Education," with articles by J. A. Swisher on "Pioneer Learning," "The Academy," and "The High School" in Iowa.

The Laws of Indiana Territory, 1809-1816 have been brought together in a single volume under the editorship of Louis B. Ewbank and Dorothy L. Riker and published by the Indiana Historical Bureau as volume 20 of the *Indiana Historical Collections* (Indianapolis, 1934. 923 p.). The volume is the last of three in which have been reprinted the laws enacted before statehood for the region that entered the Union as Indiana. Two volumes covering the earlier period — *Laws of the Northwest Territory, 1788-1800*, and *Laws of Indiana Territory, 1801-1809* — have been published previously by the Illinois State Historical Library. This concluding volume of Indiana territorial laws consists of six sections, chronologically arranged, containing the "Acts of Assembly of the Indiana Territory," and a number of appendixes. An interesting and instructive "Review of Legislation" by the editors follows a foreword by Governor Paul V. McNutt and a preface by Christopher B. Coleman. In reprinting these laws, no attempt has been made to reproduce typographical errors or the original spacing, although the pagination of the original sets has been preserved. The "original issues of all these laws," writes Governor McNutt, "are excessively rare, and earlier partial reprints, also, are scarce." Making them available in these volumes will, he hopes, make easier the task of interpreting not only the pioneer era in American history, but present-day life as well. A. J. L.

A history of the Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin order in the United States is presented in a volume entitled *A Romance of Lady Poverty* by the Reverend Celestine N. Bittle, which has been published to commemorate the diamond jubilee of the establishment of the order at Calvary, Wisconsin (1933. 600 p.). The author places his narrative in a wide setting when he writes in his preface: "The establishment of the Capuchins in America is contemporaneous with the colonization period of the Northwest, and the fact that great sections of Wisconsin were being populated by German immigrants was largely responsible for the selection of that state as most suitable for the mother house." Of special interest are chapters dealing with the arrival of the Capuchins in Wisconsin in 1856, on the building of

the monastery in the following year, and on the Indian missions established by the order.

A Study of Wisconsin, Its Resources, Its Physical, Social and Economic Background has been published as the *First Annual Report* of the Wisconsin Regional Planning Committee (501 p.). It includes sections on geography, population, education, recreation, conservation, transportation, and many similar subjects, each of which is graphically illustrated with charts and maps.

In Come and Get It (Garden City, New York, 1935. 518 p.) Edna Ferber has cast a story in a Wisconsin lumbering community, amid scenes that are familiar to the people of the Northwest. The story traces, from the early twentieth century down to 1929, the history of the family of a wealthy lumberman who had begun his career as a chore boy in a lumber camp. Miss Ferber presents to the reader vivid word pictures of the rough lumber camps and the lumber mills of northern Wisconsin. In the words of one reviewer, the novel "is the story of lumber—the story of the making and breaking of a fortune, of a family; it is an epic of a period in our country's growth."

S. P. L.

Four bulky volumes edited by John G. Gregory and published under the title *Southwestern Wisconsin: A History of Old Crawford County* deal with a section that from 1836 to 1840 included a portion of what is now eastern Minnesota (Chicago, 1932).

"The Beginnings of a Great Industry at La Crosse"—a shingle factory established by Charles L. Colman in 1854—are described by Albert H. Sanford in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for June. Business trips to Winona, Sauk Rapids, and other Minnesota towns of the fifties are noted in the article, which is based upon the Colman Papers recently acquired by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

The record of a canoe voyage from Minneapolis up the Minnesota, down the Red, through Lake Winnipeg, and by lake, stream, and portage to York Factory on Hudson Bay appears in a volume entitled *Canoeing with the Cree* by Arnold E. Severeid (New York, 1935. 201 p.). The writer and Walter C. Port made the journey in the summer of 1934 just after being graduated from a Minneapolis high school, and the *Minneapolis Star* published their weekly reports of

their northward progress. The narrative gives a vivid picture of water routes that were familiar to traders a century ago.

A third article on "The Archives of the Hudson's Bay Company" is contributed by R. H. G. Leveson Gower, archivist of the company, to the *Beaver* for December, 1934. It deals with the "London office correspondence books," which, among other matters, seem to contain a wealth of material for a study of the history of Lord Selkirk's Red River colony. A valuable list of the "most important books relating to the Hudson's Bay Company" appears in the same issue of the *Beaver*. It is interesting to note that this list includes the volume entitled *Five Fur Traders of the Northwest*, which was edited in 1933 by Charles M. Gates, acting curator of manuscripts for the Minnesota Historical Society in 1934-35. The book is here described as "an excellent example of the good scholarship being applied to fur trade history in the United States today." G. A. Cuthbertson is the author of an interesting article in this number of the *Beaver* entitled "Fur Traders on Fresh Water," in which he tells the story of the sailing vessels built by the Northwest Company for the Great Lakes trade. The first of these, the "Otter," launched in 1785, according to the author, furnished the company with a much-needed "vessel for carrying supplies from their depot at the Sault" to their western headquarters, which Mr. Cuthbertson mistakenly places at Fond du Lac instead of at Grand Portage.

A war correspondent's report of the main events in the Riel rebellion of 1885 appears in the *Winnipeg Free Press* for June 1. The writer is Mr. George A. Flinn of Duluth, who, as a correspondent of the *Winnipeg Sun*, accompanied the 90th Battalion of Winnipeg Rifles when it set out to suppress Riel and his followers. A number of pictures of troops in the field accompany Mr. Flinn's articles, which occupy nearly two full pages of the *Free Press*.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The second and third prizes in the Donald E. Bridgman Essay Contest in the Social Studies conducted at Hamline University in 1935 were awarded to students who based their essays on manuscript sources preserved by the Minnesota Historical Society. Both essays appear in the *Hamline Piper* for May. The second prize in history

was given to Margaret Tyra for a sketch of "George Northrup: Adventurer of the Great Northwest, 1853-1864." Letters written by Northrup, a well-known Minnesota scout and guide, to members of his family in the East in the early fifties and a narrative relating to his career written by Edward Eggleston are the chief sources used by the writer. She seems, however, to have overlooked Northrup's own reports of the progress of Brackett's Battalion during an expedition against the Sioux in 1864 on which the scout met his death. "A Glimpse of Minnesota's Past: Life in the Eighteen-Sixties Seen through the Eyes of a Pastor" is the subject of the essay for which Phyllis Sweetley received the third prize. It is based upon the papers and letters of George S. Biscoe, a home missionary who went to Cottage Grove in 1861. The judges in the contest were Lester B. Shippee, Theodore C. Blegen, and Rob R. MacGregor.

Minnesota and northwest explorers whose exploits are mentioned by Leonard Outhwaite in his *Unrolling the Map: The Story of Exploration* (New York, 1935) include David Thompson, Radisson, Du Lhut, La Vérendrye, Lieutenant Pike, John C. Frémont, and Henry R. Schoolcraft. Even in a work of so general a nature, one should expect to find mentioned the discovery of the source of the Mississippi. No reference to Lake Itasca, however, appears in the volume; and the only mention of its discoverer occurs in the following vague and erroneous sentence: "In 1832 the American ethnologist, H. R. Schoolcraft, and his associate, Lewis Cass, traveled in the Mississippi Valley region, carrying out ethnological as well as topographical and geological work" (p. 163). The volume, it may be noted, gives some attention to the Kensington rune stone.

The explorer and author who discovered the source of the Mississippi, Henry R. Schoolcraft, is the subject of a sketch by Walter Hough in volume 16 of the *Dictionary of American Biography*, edited for the American Council of Learned Societies by Dumas Malone (New York, 1935). Einar I. Haugen is the author of an outline of the career of O. E. Rølvaag, the well-known Minnesota novelist and educator; Broadus Mitchell contributes a sketch of Edward V. Robinson, author of a well-known economic history of Minnesota agriculture; and Charles S. Lobingier writes of the services of Walter H. Sanborn, judge of the United States circuit court from 1892 to 1928.

The career of a St. Paul physician, Dr. Jacob E. Schadle, who gained a wide reputation as a laryngologist, is reviewed by James M. Phalen; Friedrich A. Schmidt, a Lutheran theologian who was connected with several Minnesota schools, is the subject of a sketch by John O. Evjen; and the story of a vast business enterprise that had its beginnings in Minnesota is revealed in the biography of Richard W. Sears, the founder of Sears, Roebuck and Company, by Edward A. Duddy. A number of sketches in this volume deal with individuals whose careers were identified to some extent with Minnesota. Among these are George H. Sargent, editor of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* from 1890 to 1895; Albert Schneider, a bacteriologist who was connected with the University of Minnesota in the early nineties; two railroad builders, John Scullin and Henry H. Sessions; George B. Sennett, an ornithologist who made a study of Minnesota birds in 1876; and Dred Scott, the Negro slave whose residence at Fort Snelling and other places in the North with his master, Dr. John Emerson, gave rise to the famous case that is known by his name. Of interest to Minnesotans also are sketches of Jean Joseph Rolette, fur trader, by Louise Phelps Kellogg; of Ole Rynning, Norwegian immigrant leader, by Theodore C. Blegen; and of Alexander Ross, a prominent resident of the Red River colony, by W. J. Ghent. The fact that the editor of the *Dictionary* has failed to include in the present volume a sketch of Maria Sanford, the well-known educator, will be a disappointment to many Minnesotans.

A brief article by Margaret O'Farrell on the "Discovery of St. Anthony Falls" appears with a portrait of Father Hennepin in the April issue of the *Minnesota Journal of Education*.

Mr. Glanville Smith is the author of an elaborately illustrated article on "Minnesota, Mother of Lakes and Rivers," which appears in the *National Geographic Magazine* for March. Against a clearly etched background of geography, the author sketches the story of the Minnesota Indian tribes, of the coming of the white man as trader and explorer, of settlement, of the rise of industries and cities, of the growth of a Minnesota culture. The Indian legacy of geographic names is noted; and attention is drawn also to the many state names derived from racial groups, including the French, German, Scandinavian, and Finnish. Among industries that receive special treatment

are the fur trade, lumbering, milling, iron mining, and granite quarrying. In writing of the tourist trade, Mr. Smith asserts that "Longfellow started one of Minnesota's most important industries. After the publication of 'Hiawatha' [in 1855] the hotel proprietors at Niagara noisily bewailed the fact that all their business was going to that half-pint western waterfall, Minnehaha. Such is the power of poetry." This statement needs qualifying, for George Catlin gave publicity to the upper Mississippi "grand tour" in the thirties. Erroneous impressions are given also in statements relating to Fort Snelling, one of which seems to imply that it was founded in 1822 rather than 1819. Another relates that "Minnesota's first fields" under the cultivation of white men were located at Fort Snelling, rather than at earlier fur trading posts. The development of agriculture is discussed, as is the rise of the Twin Cities in handling the trade of the expanding rural population. The state's cultural assets, particularly in the fields of music and literature, are accorded some attention.

A Report of the Minnesota State Board of Control as the State Emergency Relief Administration, covering the period from September 29, 1929, to July 1, 1934, has been prepared under the direction of Frank M. Rarig, Jr., and issued in multigraphed form (269 p.). It includes a survey of relief work in Minnesota prior to September, 1932, and accounts of the organization of state and county relief administrations. The volume is of distinct value to students of social and economic conditions in Minnesota during the depression. Of use also is a *Historical Review, Division of Public Relief* of the city of Minneapolis, covering the years 1931-34, and issued under the direction of M. U. S. Kjørlaug (79 p.).

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Winona State Teachers College, the first Minnesota normal school, was celebrated by faculty, students, and alumni from June 4 to 8. A pageant in which were depicted the settlement of Winona, the founding and early years of the normal school, its development, the first commencement in 1866, and other scenes illustrative of the history of the school was presented by students on June 5 and 6. A special "75th Anniversary Edition" of the *Winona Republic-Herald*, issued on June 5, is rich in material on the history of the teachers college. Articles on

its origin and growth from the pens of Robert R. Reed and President G. E. Maxwell are included; reminiscent accounts by Caroline V. Smith of the class of 1875 and by Mrs. Jeannette M. McConnon, a graduate in 1896, appear; and there are special articles dealing with gifts to the college, athletic activities, student organizations, and the participation of students and graduates in the World War. The announcement is made that a book on the history of the college is now in preparation by Dr. E. S. Selle. An editorial calls attention to the fact "that the Normal school was the first of its kind west of the Mississippi," and notes that "it was, too, the 14th Normal school in the United States."

The *Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, 1885-1935*, is the subject of a pamphlet by Andrew Boss issued in May by this division of the University of Minnesota as *Bulletin* 319 (78 p.). The occasion for its publication is the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the station under the guiding genius of Professor Edward D. Porter. In the "Historical Outline" with which the pamphlet opens, accounts are presented of the founding of a state agricultural college as a result of the efforts of the agricultural society, of the first and second university farms in St. Anthony and St. Paul, of the winning of federal support for agricultural education, and of the establishment of "regional branches." The outline is followed by sections devoted to the special fields of study developed by the station, such as agricultural biochemistry and economics, animal and dairy husbandry, forestry, home economics, horticulture, and veterinary medicine. The publications of the station and its relations with the graduate school of the university also receive attention. Descriptions of the beginnings and the work of the five branch stations conclude the pamphlet. An article about the development of instruction in agriculture at the University of Minnesota and the establishment of the agricultural school and experimental farm in St. Paul appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 26. It commemorates the golden anniversary of the experiment station, which was marked by the university on June 14 and 15.

A chronological list of events in the "Life History of the University of Minnesota" is published in a pamphlet entitled *The University of Minnesota, Including a complete history of the institution*,

in which are printed many interesting facts, some of which are to be taken seriously and others not (1935. 8 p.).

Dr. Edward Purcell, who served at Fort Snelling as an army doctor from its founding as Fort St. Anthony in 1819 to his death in 1825, is designated as "The First Physician in Minnesota" by Dr. John M. Armstrong in an article which appears in the *Annals of Medical History*, vol. 7, no. 2 (1935). A letter written by Purcell just before his departure for the upper Mississippi in 1819 and another sent to him during an absence from the fort in 1824 by his hospital steward are quoted. Dr. Armstrong presents an excellent picture of health conditions at Fort Snelling during the period of Purcell's service, drawing upon the report of the surgeon general of the United States army for 1820 for some of his material. A portrait of Purcell, from an original in the possession of his family, accompanies the article, which also has been issued as a separate (8 p.).

The "Vaccination of the Chippewa Indians in 1832" by Dr. Douglass Houghton, a member of the Schoolcraft expedition of that year, was discussed by Dr. John M. Armstrong of St. Paul at a meeting of Cos-Cnidus, a medical society, in Minneapolis on May 22.

A collection of early medical and surgical instruments, including those used by Dr. William W. Mayo, and an Indian medicine man's regalia are among the objects displayed in the Mayo Foundation Museum of Hygiene and Medicine, which was opened at Rochester on April 5.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the first medical association in Ramsey County, the St. Paul Academy of Medicine and Surgery, is noted by Kathryn Gorman in an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 12, in which she also calls attention to the fact that the Ramsey County Medical Society, "which had its roots in the early Academy," marks its sixty-fifth anniversary this year. The organization of each group is described and the charter members of each are named. An article about the progress and the work of the Ramsey County Medical Society, as it is recalled by Dr. William Davis of St. Paul, who became a member in 1883, is quoted. A portrait of Dr. Davis and a picture of the office of Dr. Justus Ohage, a pioneer St. Paul physician, appear with the article.

A centennial celebration commemorating jointly the founding of the first Protestant church in Minnesota at Fort Snelling and the beginning of the work of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions among the Sioux was held at Fort Snelling on the afternoon of June 11. Preceding the program, a memorial window in honor of the pioneer missionaries, Samuel W. and Gideon H. Pond, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies in the Fort Snelling Chapel. The window was the gift of the Pond Family Association. At the "Missionary Centennial Mass Meeting" which followed at 2:30 P. M., the American Board, a Congregational organization, was represented by its secretary, Dr. Alden H. Clark of Boston, and the National Board of Missions of the Presbyterian church, by Dr. John F. Somerndike of New York.

Dr. Clark, who took as his subject "A Message from a Great Past, 1835-1935," explained how it came about that the church organized at Fort Snelling a century ago was a Presbyterian organization, despite the fact that it "was the by-product of a mission to the Dakota Indians" sponsored by the Congregational church. He reviewed the story of the Dakota mission established in 1835 by Dr. Thomas S. Williamson and his companions, pointing out that "they were untiring in their effort to acquire the language," which they used as a "medium to an understanding of the thoughts and life of the people," and that they were always "ready to help in the needs that the Indians themselves felt as a means of opening the way to meeting the deeper needs of their lives." For example, Dr. Clark noted, "The Ponds with their plough and Dr. Williamson with his medical aid were establishing an indispensable basis of friendly helpfulness." At the end of twenty-seven years, however, said the speaker, "the missionaries had little to show for all their labors." Then came the Sioux War, in which a "mere handful of Christian Indians" rendered an "important and dangerous" service. Its significance was summed up by Dr. Clark in the following sentence: "That the war cry of the Dakota Indians was never again heard in Minnesota and that the peace made in 1862 was disturbed only by minor troubles seems to have been due mainly to three causes: first, the justice and clemency of President Lincoln in releasing all prisoners not convicted of murder or of the violation of white women; second, the wisdom and understanding of General Sibley in handling the situation; and,

third and most important of all, the friendship of the missionaries that won to open Christianity the greater part of this large and warlike Indian people." Dr. Clark concluded his address with sketches of some of the "Great Personalities," white and Indian, that stand out in the story of the Dakota mission.

Special centennial services were held at 8:00 P.M. at the First Presbyterian Church of Minneapolis, which traces its origin to the church established at Fort Snelling in 1835 by Dr. Williamson. Dr. Clarence E. McCartney of Pittsburgh was the speaker. Another feature of the church celebration was the presentation, on June 10, of a pageant, in which the history of the church during a hundred years was reviewed. Among the articles relating to the celebration published in the local press are an interview with Charles F. Drury, who has been a member of the Minneapolis church for sixty-nine years, in the *Minneapolis Journal* for June 2; and an outline of the career of Dr. Williamson, in the magazine section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 9.

Two Minnesota churches held celebrations in June commemorating eightieth anniversaries—the Pleasant Grove Church of Christ and St. John's Lutheran Church of Baytown, on June 9 and 30, respectively. Seventy-fifth anniversaries were celebrated by the Paynesville Methodist Episcopal Church on May 4 and 5, the Christiania Lutheran Free Church on May 19 and 20, the North and South Baptist churches of Isanti from June 21 to 23, the Norwegian-Danish Lutheran Church of Newburg on June 22 and 23, and the Sacred Heart Cathedral of Duluth on June 23; seventieth anniversaries, by the Saetersdal Lutheran Church from May 30 to June 2 and the Union Prairie Lutheran Church on June 30; sixty-fifth anniversaries, by the Zion Lutheran Church of Sanborn on June 16 and St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Kandiyohi on June 30; sixtieth anniversaries, by the Whalan Lutheran Church from May 12 to 14, the First Baptist Church of Willmar on May 25 and 26, and the West Norway Lake Lutheran Church on June 2; a fifty-fifth anniversary, by St. Lucas Lutheran Church of Normania Township, Yellow Medicine County, on May 19; fiftieth anniversaries, by the Beardsley Methodist Church and the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Ortonville on April 7, St. Casimir Catholic Church of Wells from May 12 to 14, the Glenwood Congregational Church from May 17

to 19, St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Loon Lake on May 25, the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church of Clarkfield on May 26, the Pike Lake Mission Covenant Church from May 31 to June 2, the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Galena Township, Martin County, on June 2, the Scandinavian Free Mission Church of Kerkhoven from June 6 to 9, the Riverside Lutheran Church of Dawson from June 14 to 16, the Brunswick Lutheran Church and St. Petri Lutheran Church of Stephen from June 22 to 24, the Aitkin Methodist Episcopal Church and the Teien Mission Church from June 28 to 30, and the Camp Norwegian Lutheran Church on June 30; a fortieth anniversary, by the Evangelical Mission Covenant Church of Worthington from May 2 to 5; thirty-fifth anniversaries by the First Baptist Church of Eveleth from June 7 to 9 and the Foley Presbyterian Church on April 28; and a twenty-fifth anniversary by the Pilot Mound Lutheran Church on June 1 and 2. Attention was called to these anniversaries in the local newspapers, which in many cases published brief histories of the celebrating churches. The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Ortonville published a pamphlet commemorating its golden anniversary (20 p.), which includes a brief historical sketch.

S. P. L.

The story of the five million loan, of the attempt to repudiate the Minnesota railroad bonds of 1857, and of their final redemption is retold in some detail by Reginald C. McGrane in a volume devoted to *Foreign Bondholders and American State Debts* (New York, 1935. 410 p.). "Minnesota actually passed a constitutional amendment on the eve of the Civil War repudiating a debt which her own representatives had voted," writes Professor McGrane, "and for over twenty years every attempt to adjust this debt was defeated either by her own obdurate electorate or by the unwillingness of the creditors to accept the proffered terms." The writer undertakes to "recount the reactions of a northern community toward the payment of a debt which the people were convinced was unjust and fraudulent," and he notes that "far-sighted leaders found it necessary to take the final decision out of the hands of the electorate in order to save the state from repudiation."

Two pamphlets recently brought out by the League of Minnesota Municipalities as numbers 47 and 48 of its *Publications*, are *Inheri-*

tance Taxes by Glen R. Treanor and Roy G. Blakey (48 p.) and *Sales Taxes* by Carl L. Nelson, Gladys C. Blakey, and Roy G. Blakey (88 p.). In the first the authors give a short historical sketch of the development of death-tax legislation in America since colonial times, and a concise statement of the attempts to impose inheritance taxes in Minnesota from 1875 to 1911, when the first constitutional measure was enacted. That law, modified at frequent intervals, is the basis for the present inheritance-tax law in this state. Sections of the pamphlet are devoted to an analysis and comparison of the laws in various states, including Minnesota, from the standpoints of returns, administration, and legal interpretation. The movement for sales taxes is described in the second pamphlet, which includes an historical sketch of the development of sales-tax legislation by the United States government since the Civil War, and accounts of the attempts on the part of individual states to pass such laws since the enactment of a pioneer Pennsylvania statute in 1821. Other sections of the pamphlet deal with the different kinds of sales taxes, in operation or proposed, and with the economic and social effects of such a tax system.

A. J. L.

"The Finland Community, Minnesota" is used as an example of a "submarginal agricultural area in the 'Arrowhead Country'" by Darrell H. Davis in an article in the *Geographical Review* for July. The writer notes that at Finland "conditions are typical of those in cutover lands with rapidly growing tax-delinquent acreages in this part of the state." He pictures a northern community inhabited largely by Finns who occupied their farms between 1895 and 1906 and who were served by a railroad only from 1911 to 1921, when "commercially exploitable timber" was to be found in the region. That the "area embraced by the Community is a frontier region agriculturally, and such it will always remain" is the conclusion reached by Mr. Davis.

Mr. Fred W. Johnson is the author of several articles about the history of the "Sioux Reservation" in the Minnesota Valley, which appear in the *Brown County Journal* of New Ulm for June 14, 21, and 28. The first deals with the "Presbyterian Missions" established in the valley by Dr. Thomas S. Williamson and Stephen R. Riggs; the second relates to the work of Bishop Whipple and Samuel

D. Hinman and the Episcopal mission at the lower agency; and the third is concerned with the reservation and the "story of its inception."

"It was a Minnesota writer who contributed to the undoing of the bass by lionizing him," reads an editorial entitled "Fatal Fame of the Bass," which appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 31. It notes that "Charles Hallock, a New York editor . . . came to this state and founded the town of Hallock in 1880. He operated a hotel which was famous as a fishing resort and attracted many of his readers from the East. He continued his writing with material he found here and publicized the bass so successfully that other outdoor writers followed his lead. Fatal fame for that fighting fish followed." Hallock's magazine, *Forest and Stream*, is described by Selma P. Larsen in the June issue of *MINNESOTA HISTORY* (*ante*, p. 187-191).

Steps leading toward the preservation of the lakes and forests of Minnesota's international border country are enumerated by Paul B. Riis in an article entitled "The Birth of an International Wilderness Park," which appears in *Parks and Recreation* for December, 1934. The writer describes a struggle, extending over a period of more than a decade, which resulted in the creation by President Roosevelt of the Quetico-Superior Council. Thus federal support is assured for the "preservation of this matchless border lakes wilderness" in Minnesota and Ontario.

"In our program of conservation, it would be well to set aside some of the prominent undisturbed mound groups as state or public parks," writes F. T. Gustavson in an article on "Our Archeological Resources" which appears in the *Minnesota Conservationist* for May. The author presents a general account of the archaeological discoveries that have been made in Minnesota during the last half century.

Jean Baptiste Cadotte, William A. Aitkin, Joseph Renville, and other fur traders were among the leading characters in the annual historical pageant presented under the auspices of the Northwestern Minnesota Historical Association during the summer of 1935 at Itasca and other Minnesota state parks. The schedule called for six performances at Itasca State Park on June 30, July 14 and 28, Au-

gust 11 and 25, and September 1; four at Jay Cooke State Park on August 4, 5, 6, and 7; and one each at Whitewater State Park on July 21 and at Fort Ridgely on August 18.

Taylor's Falls and St. Croix Falls—St. Croix Valley towns of Minnesota and Wisconsin—joined in the presentation of a pageant of pioneer life entitled "Days of '46" at Interstate Park on June 15 and 16. A logging camp, a pioneer school, and a village scene of frontier days were depicted in some of the episodes. In both towns displays of pioneer objects were arranged in store windows by local merchants. Among the objects loaned for these exhibits were old dolls, furniture, and costumes.

Among the articles dealing with local history appearing in the June issue of the *Northwest Pioneer* are an account of frontier politics at Pembina in 1857, a description of service on the early line of the Minneapolis and Manitoba Railroad between Crookston and Grand Forks, and a sketch of the Arvilla Academy, "a pioneer educational institution which flourished near Arvilla, N. D., from 1886 to 1893."

The Story of Alden C. Mead, Pioneer and Soldier, is told by his daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Aeschliman in a recently published pamphlet (Minneapolis, 1934. 9 p.). The subject of this sketch came west from Boston to settle in pioneer St. Anthony and he served in the Civil and Sioux wars as a member of Hatch's Battalion of cavalry. The greater part of the narrative is devoted to Mead's participation in these conflicts.

Brief sketches of Dr. Warren Upham, secretary of the Minnesota Historical Society from 1895 to 1914, and Henri Verbrugghen, conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra from 1923 to 1932, both of whom died in 1934, appear in the section devoted to "Necrology" in the *New International Year Book* for 1934 (New York and London, 1935). The career of Cass Gilbert, the architect who designed the Minnesota Capitol, is the subject of a longer sketch in the same volume.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

In the June issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY was published a list of important manuscripts in the collections of the Rice County Historical Society (*ante*, p. 241). It was explained that similar inventories of

records collected by local historical societies were being prepared in other counties as part of a state-wide canvass of historical manuscripts. A list of some of the items preserved by the St. Louis County Historical Society at Duluth follows:

The diaries of Edmund F. Ely, a missionary among the Chippewa, 1833-54; the diaries of James Peet, another missionary, 1856-65; the records of the Duluth land office; letters and other records of the traders who operated around Michipicoten and along the North Shore from 1807 to 1887; documents relating to the building of the Northern Pacific Railroad; scrapbooks kept by Lucien Merritt, William P. Peckhamp, and George B. Sargent; minute books and other records of Culver post, Grand Army of the Republic; the charter, minutes, and other records of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; and a large collection of World War material.

A collection of more than two hundred examples of Indian handiwork was displayed by Mrs. Mora Reedfield of Mankato at a meeting of the Blue Earth County Historical Society on April 2.

Recent additions to the collections of the Crow Wing County Historical Society, now on display in its museum at Brainerd, are described in the *Brainerd Tribune* for June 27. The announcement is made that the museum will be open to visitors every Thursday afternoon during the summer. The following appeal concludes the article: "Citizens of Crow Wing county, use the opportunity to visit your museum and see for yourself what has been accomplished in four short years, in the way of collecting and preserving those things which will tell to the generations to follow the story of our todays and yesterdays. Do your part in this enterprise by placing your own family heirlooms, photographs, and records, Indian curios, etc., in the society's care, safe from fire, thieves, and indifferent heirs, where they can be enjoyed by the visitors who come to us from every state in the Union."

Corresponding secretaries for most of the townships in Fillmore County were named at a meeting of the local historical society held at Preston on June 5.

An extensive program was presented by the Hubbard County Historical Society at a meeting held at Park Rapids on May 15. "Pioneer Life on Hubbard Prairie" was described by a group of early settlers, including Mrs. Fanny Wright, Mr. Frank Sanford, Mr. John Nugent, Mrs. Anna Todd, Mrs. Nettie Wilson, and Mrs.

Erma Benham. Dr. C. W. Cutler, one of the first physicians in the county, presented his "Reminiscences of a Pioneer Medico." The lumber industry in the region was recalled by Mr. Frank White in a paper entitled "Feeding Lumberjacks" and by Mr. Edward Zimbrick, who described his experiences as a timber cruiser. The story of "A Hubbard County Sourdough in the Klondike" was told by Mr. Alf Hendrickson. An early map of Hubbard County presented to the society by Judge B. F. Wright was placed on display during the meeting.

The Marshall County Historical Society is planning to collect historical material about churches in the county as a special project for the coming year.

For an essay on "Pioneer Life in Graham Lake Township," Jean Wright, a pupil in a district school in this township, was awarded the first prize in the historical essay contest conducted by the Nobles County Historical Society (see *ante*, p. 243). Her essay is published in full in the *Worthington Globe* for June 6.

That "there doubtless is much material of historical interest in Worthington which should be preserved for the future" is pointed out in an editorial in the *Worthington Globe* for June 27. "Perhaps the program could be best handled by the county historical group," the writer continues, "making the display one of county interest rather than only for the city." The excellent suggestion is made that a case containing a historical display be placed in the city hall, where "being open to inspection, it would stimulate interest in adding to the collection." This should prove a step in the direction of an adequate county historical museum.

Mrs. E. H. Loyhed of Faribault was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society held at Northfield on May 20. She presented her reminiscences of a pioneer childhood in Northfield, where she was a member of the well-known family of John T. Ames. Other speakers on the program were Miss Isabella Watson, whose family settled in Northfield in 1878, and Mr. F. M. AnDyke, an early resident of Cannon City. Mrs. Loyhed's paper appears in full in the *Faribault Daily News* for May 21 and the *Northfield News* for May 24.

Incidents from the history of Roseau County were re-enacted in a pageant presented by the Roseau County Historical Society as part of a celebration in commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the organization of the county on June 21 and 22. About five thousand people gathered at Roseau during the festivities.

An account of the picture collection of the St. Louis County Historical Society is contributed by its secretary, Anna L. Monson, to the *Duluth Free Press* for April 26.

Early surveys in Wabasha County were described by Mr. George Beatty in a talk before the Lake Pepin Valley Historical Society at Lake City on June 10. A paper on Fort Beauharnois, prepared by the Reverend James L. Connolly of St. Paul, was read by Mrs. W. H. Pletsch. "Lake City's Early Grain Elevators" was the title of a paper by Mrs. Elton Lamb which was read at a meeting of the society on April 9. It is published in full in the *Wabasha County Leader* of Lake City for April 18.

Dr. Charles M. Gates, acting curator of manuscripts on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, spoke on materials for the study of the history of the St. Croix Valley preserved by the society at a meeting of the Washington County Historical Society at Bayport on May 1. A memorial to the late Edward E. Bloomquist, first president of the Washington County society, was presented by Chester S. Wilson, and a paper on the early history of Bayport was read by Myrna Swenson. Another program arranged by this society and presented before a large audience at Woodbury on May 9 included a sketch of the history of the community and accounts of 4-H Club work in the vicinity.

A meeting held at Breckenridge on May 2 resulted in the organization of the Wilkin County Historical Society. Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the state society, addressed the meeting, taking as his subject "Community Memory." The following officers were elected for the new society: H. L. Shirley of Breckenridge, president; Bert Huse of Campbell, vice president; Charles E. Holmgren of Breckenridge, secretary; and C. A. Gewalt of Breckenridge, treasurer.

Meetings held at Winona on May 13 and June 24 resulted in the organization of the Winona County Historical Society. On the latter date a constitution was adopted and the following officers were elected: William Codman, president; G. H. Pierce, vice president; Mildred Sebo, secretary; Luella Guidinger, treasurer; and Carolyn V. Smith, historian and curator. An editorial in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for June 25 suggests that the new society should be provided with "quarters in which the things of bygone days may be preserved." The writer points out that "hundreds of residents have one or several documents, pieces of apparel, volumes, tools, home furnishings and other objects which would be genuine additions to any accumulation designed to depict life in Winona county and its history."

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

Plans for compiling a history of Benton County under the supervision of J. A. Kraus and with the help of SERA workers are announced in the *Foley Independent* for April 17.

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of St. Mary's Academy at Graceville on June 26 is the occasion for the publication of a history of the school in the *Graceville Enterprise* for June 20. According to this account, Indian girls from the Sioux reservation at Sisseton, South Dakota, were among the first to attend this Catholic school.

About four hundred Becker County pioneers and members of their families gathered at the farm home of Mrs. Martinus Johnson near Audubon on June 23 to commemorate the sixty-fifth anniversary of the arrival on this homestead of Mrs. Johnson and her late husband. Accounts of the celebration and of the journey of these pioneer settlers northward from Albert Lea in 1870 appear in the *Detroit Lakes Tribune* for June 27.

How the founding of New Ulm in May, 1855, followed the organization of the Chicago Landverein two years earlier is explained in an illustrated feature article in the *New Ulm Review* for May 16, which calls attention to the eightieth anniversary of the German settlement in the Minnesota Valley. The *Verein*, according to this account, was made up of German immigrants who were attending a night school in Chicago and who decided to found a colony.

Members of the Burnstown Farm Bureau listened to a talk on the early history of Brown County by Fred W. Johnson, president of the Brown County Historical Society, at a meeting held at Springfield on April 16.

"Unusual Facts of History Pertaining to Carver County and Minnesota" is the heading under which the *Waconia Patriot* is publishing a series of local historical sketches supplied by a feature service. In the issue for April 11, a note is quoted from the March number of MINNESOTA HISTORY (*ante*, p. 24); it relates to the development of a hardy alfalfa by Wendelin Grimm on his Carver County farm. Another sketch, published on May 2, deals with a bell foundry established at Watertown in 1864 by William Bleedorn.

The stores and houses along St. Croix Avenue, the main street of Lindstrom, as they appeared in 1898, are described in the *Chisago County Press* of Lindstrom for April 4.

The razing of the home of Captain Henry A. Castle on Silver Lake in North St. Paul is the occasion for the publication of an article about the house and its owner in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 12. The writer reveals that Castle built the house on a farm in the late eighties, when North St. Paul was developed as a boom town. Earlier he had been one of the owners of the *St. Paul Dispatch*. The article is reprinted in the *North St. Paul Courier* for June 21.

The story of the Root River State Bank of Chatfield and of the three men — J. C. Easton, G. H. Haven, and George H. Haven — who have served as its presidents since it was founded in 1856 is reviewed in the *Chatfield News* for May 16. Until recently the bank was known as the First State Bank of Chatfield. Mr. S. L. Case is the author of an article, in the *News* for June 13, which deals with "four towns in the United States and one in Canada named Chatfield and all named for different men."

An SERA project of unusual interest and value is being worked out at Albert Lea, where a folk arts museum will be opened to the public on July 30. Objects of both American and European origin will be displayed in the museum, which is located in the Central School. There will be assembled articles brought to Albert Lea by members of various racial groups that make up its population, as well

as objects illustrative of pioneer life in the community. Plans are under way for the organization, in connection with the formal opening of the museum, of a Freeborn County historical society, which will supervise the future administration of the museum. If these plans materialize, the collecting activities of the museum doubtless will be broadened to include the assembling of manuscripts, newspapers, books, and other materials of value in a study of the history of the region. The celebration that marks the opening of the museum also will commemorate the centennial of the exploration of Freeborn County and southern Minnesota by Lieutenant Albert Miller Lea, for whom the city of Albert Lea is named.

Mr. Constant Larson of Alexandria, Mr. C. H. Phinney of Herman, and Dr. L. W. Boe, president of St. Olaf College, Northfield, were the speakers at a meeting of the Grant County Old Settlers' Association at Barrett on June 24. Mr. Phinney's address, which dealt with "Pioneering Days that Have Passed," appears in the *Grant County Herald* of Elbow Lake for June 27 as one of a series of articles by this author on the history of the county (see *ante*, p. 247). Assessment records of 1877 are drawn upon for accounts of conditions in a number of townships, which appear in the *Herald* for April 4, 11, and 18; and an interesting sketch of T. C. Hodgson of Herman, a Grant County leader of the agrarian crusade of the eighties, is published in the issue for May 16.

The history of the Hopkins post office from its establishment in 1879 with Harley Hopkins, the founder of the village, as the first postmaster is outlined in the *Hennepin County Review* of Hopkins for May 30.

A transatlantic journey from a Swedish port to Quebec, thence by boat and rail to St. Paul, by steamboat up the Minnesota River to Carver, and overland in a covered wagon to Monson Lake is described by A. P. Oman, a Swedish immigrant of 1861, in an interesting reminiscent article which appears in the *Dakota County Tribune* of Farmington for April 19. A first-hand account of the experiences of the settlers at Monson and Norway lakes during the Sioux Outbreak of 1862 is included.

Several brief articles about the history of the Willmar High School appear in its publication, the *Wilohi*, for May 23. They re-

veal that the first steps toward the establishment of a high school in Willmar were taken in 1879 and that in the following year the school was opened with four teachers.

An example of the use of history in advertising is to be found in the "1935 Tourist Edition" of the International Falls *Daily Journal*, issued on April 12. Bits of historical information are woven into descriptions of resorts in the Rainy Lake and Lake of the Woods regions. Among the articles of more general interest in the edition are accounts of Rainy Lake City and the gold rush of the nineties, of the development of the lumber industry around International Falls and Fort Frances, and of "Naming Minnesota's 10,000 Lakes." The Koochiching County mail service of the early nineties, in which boats, dog teams, and Indian runners figured, is the subject of an article by Mrs. Abe Olson.

A little log school built in Hantho Township, Lac qui Parle County, in the early seventies is the subject of a reminiscent sketch by Gilbert Nelson of Milan in the *Independent Press* of Madison for May 17. A picture of the structure, which is still used as a granary, accompanies the article.

The Lac qui Parle mission centennial was commemorated by the Lac qui Parle County Old Settlers Association at a meeting near the site of the mission on June 23. The principal address, which was presented by the Reverend H. R. Upton of Dawson, dealt with the history of the mission and the work of Thomas S. Williamson.

The later days of steamboating on the Minnesota River, when agricultural implements were being shipped upstream to Le Sueur, are described in an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 26. It is based upon the papers of John Ryan, which reveal that he received shipments on the "Alvira" in 1886.

An "Early History of Lincoln County," compiled by A. E. Tasker from the writings of pioneers and historians and from newspaper files, has been appearing in installments in the *Lake Benton News* since May 3. Much of the early material is quoted from a history of Lyon County, which until 1873 included part of Lincoln County. Beginning with the issue of June 14, reminiscent accounts by pioneers are quoted from early newspapers.

The election returns of Belle Plaine for the years 1861 and 1863 were used by J. E. Townsend in the preparation of an article in the *Belle Plaine Herald* for April 18. The names of the voters who cast ballots in these elections are listed in the article.

Members of the Martin County Historical Society who arrived in the county in covered wagons have formed a Covered Wagon Club. Early in April eight members had been enrolled; their names and accounts of their first journeys into the county and settlement there appear in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for April 13. In the same paper for May 30 an account of "Covered Wagon Days" by E. H. Canfield of Luverne appears. He tells of a journey from Olmsted County to Lake Fremont Township in Martin County, where his father settled in 1869.

Social, civic, and military organizations of Princeton are the subjects of brief historical sketches in the *Princeton Union* for June 27. Among the clubs included are the Princeton Civic Betterment Club, a women's organization which dates from 1915; the local commercial club, which was organized in 1908; the Princeton Rod and Gun Club, which has existed since 1930; organizations of Boy and Girl Scouts; and local posts of the American Legion and of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Articles are devoted also to Civil War veterans residing in Princeton and to the participation of the village in the Spanish-American and World wars.

Landmarks of a bygone day in southern Minnesota are the subjects of articles, some of which are signed by R. C. Emery, that appear in the magazine section of the *Austin Daily Herald* from April 6 to June 1. The first of the group, and perhaps the most interesting, deals with a store at Forestville that was established in the fifties by Felix Meighen. Upon his death it was run for a time by his son, Mr. Thomas D. Meighen of Preston, who closed its doors in 1910, leaving the stock upon the shelves. "Many of the wares which still fill the two floors of the store itself must have been in stock for a good fifty years," according to the writer, who describes the deserted store as a "natural museum of Minnesota history." Among the subjects of other articles in the *Herald* are the Tattersoll House, an early hotel at High Forest, April 13; the deserted villages of Wasioja and Cedar City, April 20 and May 4; Brownsdale, a community that has

seen three boom periods, May 11; and the homestead of William Buck near Stewartville, June 1. Reminiscent sketches by pioneers written in response to an invitation of the *Herald* appear in its magazine section after June 8.

The *Mower County News* of Austin marks its seventieth anniversary in its issue for June 13. Historical sketches of this paper and of other Mower County newspapers appear in the issue. Among other articles of historical interest included are a brief outline of the history of Austin, an account of the organization of the county with lists of early officers, a review of the history of the local Masonic lodge, a sketch by Mrs. Ivie Bell of the history of Lyle Township and village, a history of the local schools by Rachel D. Gardner, and an account of the Austin Dental Society, which has been active for twenty-five years, by Dr. C. G. Gillam.

An account book kept in the late fifties at an Austin hotel, probably the Lacy House, is the subject of an interesting article in the *Austin Daily Herald* for May 20. It was found recently by Mr. Harold Murphy while engaged in tearing down an old house.

A condensed and revised version of A. P. Rose's *History of Nobles County* (Worthington, 1908) is being published in installments in the *Worthington Globe*. From May 23 to June 13 this narrative is replaced by a reminiscent account by Louis Larson, a Swedish pioneer who crossed the Atlantic with his parents in 1870, lived for a time in an immigrant home in Minneapolis, and settled on a claim in Nobles County in 1871.

The first high school graduation in Rochester, which took place in 1871, is recalled in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for June 6. Notes about the six members of the class are included.

Mr. Harvey Smalley, Jr., continues to publish his "Otter Tales: A Personalized History of Otter Tail County" in the *Perham Enterprise-Bulletin* (see *ante*, p. 250). The items included in the installments for April 11 and 18, May 23 and 30, and June 6 relate largely to Perham. Of special interest is the last, which presents an account of logging operations as recalled by E. A. Pelton of Jamestown, North Dakota. Church records are used in the preparation of an

account, published on May 26, of the Catholic parish of St. Joseph, which includes a list of parishioners in 1871.

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Underwood, in Otter Tail County, was celebrated by the people of the village on June 27. Judge Anton Thompson, the principal speaker, recalled pioneer days in the community. A display of photographs and objects illustrative of pioneer life was a feature of the celebration.

A "History of Fergus Falls" compiled by Roy A. Baker from newspaper files, the proceedings of the village and city councils, interviews with pioneers, and secondary sources has been appearing in installments since April 8 in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal*. The arrangement is roughly chronological, and there are sections dealing with exploration in the Otter Tail region, the naming and platting of the townsite, the establishment of churches of various denominations, the first doctor, pioneer amusements, early newspapers, the coming of the railroad, and the like.

The first of a series of articles on the "History of Starbuck" — an account of the "Origin of Town" by Mrs. Constance Erickson — appears in the *Starbuck Times* for June 20. The articles have been prepared under the auspices of the local American Legion Auxiliary.

A church history of more than usual interest is the *Church of St. Mary of Saint Paul: The Story of a Pioneer Parish* by the Reverend James M. Reardon (St. Paul, 1935. 63 p.). In this pamphlet is told the story of the third Catholic church in St. Paul, which was dedicated in 1867 and which formed the "last connecting link between the beginnings of Catholicity in the frontier village of bark-roofed cabins and the golden age of its development in the metropolitan city." Chapters are included not only on the history of the church, but on the parish school and other institutions in the parish — the Convent of the Visitation, St. Mary's Home for Girls, an institute for deaf mutes, and the Catholic Orphan Asylum. The church's choir and works of art also are noted. A list of pastors and assistant pastors who have served the parish appears at the end of the pamphlet.

A "special anniversary edition" of the *Central High Times*, issued on April 26, contains a detailed history of Central High School of St. Paul and of the buildings in which it has been located since the

establishment of the first St. Paul high school in 1866. Pictures of the Franklin School, in which the first classes were held, and of the old and new Central High School buildings appear with the article. Historical surveys of a number of school activities are included in the issue; for example, the school publications issued between 1890 and the present are listed, and athletics are described in several articles.

"Earlier Days and Development of the St. Paul Water Supply" is the title of one section of a multigraphed pamphlet on the *Romance of the Water Department*, recently issued by the St. Paul water department (14 p.). It reveals that water was first supplied to St. Paulites from Lake Phalen by a private company in 1869, when "there were but a few miles of mains in the entire city, and most people obtained their water from water carts or used private wells." The acquisition of the water system by the city in 1881 is noted and its gradual expansion is traced.

The first number of the *Minnesota Pioneer*, copies of which are preserved by the Minnesota Historical Society and the Junior Pioneers of St. Paul, is described in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 26. How James M. Goodhue issued the sheet on April 28, 1849, is explained in the article, which is accompanied by a facsimile of part of the first page.

A History of Masonic Women, Saint Paul, 1918-1930 is the title of a pamphlet which contains a sketch, by Blanche D. Spear, of an organization that grew out of a Red Cross unit of the World War period (16 p.).

The old White Bear Lake Depot, which has recently been demolished to make way for a modern highway, is the subject of an article in the *White Bear Press* for May 3. The ceremonies that marked the opening of the depot in 1868 are described.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of Shattuck School at Faribault was commemorated in connection with the annual commencement exercises on June 6. Two pages of the *Faribault Daily News* for June 4 are devoted to the past and present of the school. Of special note is a review of its history by C. W. Newhall, headmaster of the school, who reveals that "Shattuck is the outgrowth of a small mission school established in Faribault by the Rev. James

Lloyd Breck in 1858." Breck's work in the establishment of Episcopal schools is the subject of another article.

The seventieth anniversary of the founding of Bethlehem Academy of Faribault and the fiftieth anniversary of the graduation of the first class were commemorated during the commencement exercises, which took place from June 8 to 10. The history of the school, which was established by sisters of the Dominican order from a convent at Benton, Wisconsin, in 1865, is reviewed by the Reverend John R. Volz in the *Faribault Daily News* for June 7.

The story of the Northfield bank robbery of 1876 is retold by Carl L. Weicht in the *Wright County Journal-Press* of Buffalo for April 25. The narrative was prepared for presentation as a radio talk over station WCAL of Northfield.

A monument to George R. Stuntz, pioneer mining engineer on the Mesabi Range, was unveiled at Hibbing on May 30. Mr. William E. Culkin, president of the St. Louis County Historical Society, was the principal speaker. A picture of the monument appears in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for May 30. The surveying and engineering exploits of Stuntz in the Arrowhead country are recalled in an article about his career which appears in installments in the *Hibbing Daily Journal* for May 17, 18, 23, 25, and 28.

Miss Gertrude B. Gove is the author of a history of the Technical High School of St. Cloud which appears in four installments in the *St. Cloud Daily Times* from May 27 to 30. She traces the beginnings of the St. Cloud school system back to 1858, tells of the three-year high-school course with "ample facilities for preparation for college" which was presented without much success in the seventies, and describes the work of Samuel S. Parr in building up a well-organized high school with many special departments. The final installment is devoted to the story of the development of the high school since 1911.

The story of Catholic activity in Stearns County is told in several pages of historical narrative and illustration in the *St. Cloud Daily Times* for May 20, which commemorates the twenty-fifth anniversary of the episcopal consecration of Bishop Joseph F. Busch. His work during the twenty years that he has served as bishop of St. Cloud is reviewed, and the thirty-nine Catholic churches built in the diocese

during that period are listed. The growth of Catholic institutions, such as an orphanage and a hospital at St. Cloud, is described; and Catholic schools in the diocese—the College of St. Benedict at St. Joseph, St. John's University at Collegeville, St. Francis High School at Little Falls, and the Cathedral High School of St. Cloud—are the subjects of articles.

Under the heading "Visiting about the Old Days," Mr. Herbert Luers continues to publish reminiscent sketches in the tabloid section of the *Owatonna Journal-Chronicle* (see *ante*, p. 255). Local politics, controversies in which the writer was involved as the editor of the *Owatonna Chronicle*, some early Memorial Day observances, and Owatonna's participation in the Spanish-American War are among the subjects touched upon.

Additional installments of O. B. DeLaurier's history of Hartford Township, a Polish settlement in Todd County, appear in the *Long Prairie Leader* from April 4 to 25 (see *ante*, p. 256). A history of Reynolds Township by the same writer appears in the *Leader* from May 2 to June 27.

The presentation to the Ursuline sisters by General Israel Garrard of the land on which the Villa Maria of Frontenac is situated was depicted in one episode of a pageant given at the school on June 2 to mark the four-hundredth anniversary of the Ursuline order. The historical backgrounds of the school and its site are described by Helen L. Cragg in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 26.

An attempt on the part of Lake City in 1867 to become the county seat of Wabasha County by taking the honor away from Wabasha is described in the *Wabasha County Leader* of Lake City for April 11. A contested election that was carried into the courts and that was finally settled by the state supreme court placed the courthouse in Wabasha, where it still remains.

